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ANNIVERSARY
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Daily Report

East Asia

BIS-EAS-91-224
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0 November 1991

Daily Report
East Asia

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Japan

Defense Minister on Forces' Role Under UN Bill

OW1911180391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1451 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 19 (KYODO)—Japan's defense minister said Tuesday that present constitutional restraints would prevent Japanese troops engaged in U.N. peacekeeping operations from coming to the aid of other nations' peacekeeping force members under attack.

Japan's peacekeeping forces "would not be able to take military action to go to the rescue of other troops," said Sohei Miyashita, state minister and Defense Agency director general.

Miyashita was responding to questions from opposition member Mitsuo Higashinaka at a House of Representatives committee meeting that is debating a bill that would allow Japan to send forces overseas to join U.N. peacekeeping missions.

Approval of the bill would lead to Japanese forces being allowed overseas for the first time since Japan's defeat in World War II.

Miyashita said Japanese peacekeepers would not be legally allowed to use their firearms to help other nations' peacekeeping units, even if the other forces were in a situation where they were prevented by force from carrying out ceasefire-monitoring activities.

Miyashita's remarks were in line with the long-held government position that Japanese forces should fire only in self-defense, and only based on the "respective judgment of each serviceman" if attacked by troops violating a truce accord.

In a related debate, Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa suggested that orders of a U.N.-appointed field commander would not always have to be followed by Japanese peacekeeping forces.

The prime minister said it was "clear" that the U.N. secretary general and his appointed commanders would not "have the right to order or be in a position to command Japanese peacekeepers."

Miyazawa made the remarks in reply to opposition member Tadatoshi Akiba, who asked the prime minister to point out the inconsistency between the bill—which would allow Japanese troops to fire only in self-defense—and U.N. rules empowering commanders appointed by the secretary general to order troops to open fire in defense of a peacekeeping mission.

The U.N. procedures stipulate a chain of command for U.N. peacekeepers and the parameters of their military actions for ceasefire-monitoring purposes.

The government says it has incorporated stringent limitations in the bill to ensure its consistency with Japan's constitution, which bans Japan from using force as a means of settling international disputes.

Opposition parties have said that the official line is a sophistry to secure passage of the bill since Japanese troops placed under the U.N.-appointed field commander would be forced to fire on the orders of the commander rather than only in a self-defense situation.

Akiba asked if Japan would essentially lose command over Self-Defense Forces dispatched as peacekeepers since Japanese troops would be under the U.N.-sanctioned commander.

The government has taken the official position that Japanese peacekeepers would not be forced to disobey the constitutional ban, since Japanese commanders could order their troops to withdraw should fighting break out.

Issei Nomura, the cabinet's deputy director general for peacekeeping operations affairs, told the committee that the U.N. field commander's authority, "does not correspond to the concept of command that implies the relationship of a superior officer and its subordinates."

Panel To Call for Settling on ODA Guidelines

OW2011124791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1215 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 20 KYODO—A special panel to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa will recommend that the government settle on Official Development Assistance (ODA) guidelines that encompass a basic philosophy on foreign aid and aid policy for each region, according to a draft of the report obtained Wednesday by KYODO NEWS SERVICE.

The draft report of an ad hoc commission on administrative reform subcommittee, to be submitted early next month, also asks the government to make clearer the process of screening aid projects.

The subcommittee on Japan's role in the world, headed by Kazuo Inamori, chairman of Kyocera Corp., said the government must establish guidelines to secure people's understanding of Tokyo's foreign aid policy.

The panel's draft report also urges the government to set midterm targets and adopt a yearly foreign aid plan based on the guidelines.

The draft requests the administration to regularly disclose information and official documents on recipient countries and aid projects. Domestic and international critics of Japan's ODA policy say the screenings take too long and the process is not made public.

The draft calls for reviewing the organization of the government's foreign aid arm, the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund.

It also includes proposals on promoting scientific, technological, and cultural exchanges.

The final report is also expected to refer to environmental preservation and foreign laborers in Japan.

'Source': Trade Imbalance Improvement Stalled

OW1911215291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1438 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 19 (KYODO)—The September U.S. trade data provided clear evidence of stalled progress in a narrowing of the huge trade deficit, a Bank of Japan source said late Tuesday.

The source made the comment after the U.S. Commerce Department reported that the U.S. trade deficit widened to a seasonally adjusted 6.79 billion dollars in September, up from a revised 6.53 billion dollar deficit in August.

"The figure itself came roughly within the range of expectations," the source said.

"The narrowing trend of the U.S. trade deficit since spring appears to have halted," the source said, citing the fact that the deficit exceeded 6 billion dollars for the second straight month.

Okinawa Delegation Calls for Return of Marina

OW2011034091 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese Morning Edition 20 Nov 91 p3

[Text] Tokyo—A 12-member Kadena Town Assembly delegation, led by its Chairman Eiji Miyahira called on Diet members elected from Okinawa, and such organs as the Foreign Ministry, the Defense Facilities Administration Agency [DFAA] and the Okinawa Development Agency [ODA], during its two-day visit from 18 to 19 November. During their visit, they called for the return of the Kadena Marina areas.

In response to the delegation's request, DFAA Director-General Fujii indicated a positive stand and stated that "we will continue to consult with the U.S. side and make efforts to have such a request realized." Koichiro Matsuura, director-general of the North American Affairs Bureau of the Foreign Ministry, also stated that "we will have talks with the U.S. side in cooperation with the DFAA." ODA Director-General Tomoo Ie indicated his understanding of details of the request.

In the past, the local commander has asked for a substitute site in response to the request. Based on this demand, the delegation suggested that as one alternative for realistic measures, the marina could be moved to a location a little to the south of the present site. In regards to this proposal, both Director-General Matsuura and Director-General Fujii expressed their strong interest.

The marina facility, which covers an area of 102,000 square meters, is the only land lot where the Kadena Town office has worked out a development plan. Eighty percent of the landowners have already agreed to the development plan. According to the plan, when the area is returned, it will be turned into a comprehensive industrial zone by reclaiming about 30,000 square meters and by improving the fishing harbor.

Shevardnadze's Return to Office 'Welcomed'

OW2011040391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0331 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 20 KYODO—Japan welcomed the return of Eduard Shevardnadze as Soviet foreign minister Wednesday, praising him as a promoter of progressive foreign policies.

Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe said in a statement that Shevardnadze is highly praised internationally as a prominent democratic leader of the Soviet Union.

Shevardnadze marked up many achievements as a promoter of "new thinking diplomacy" until he announced his resignation last December, Watanabe said.

The Japanese foreign minister said he hopes Shevardnadze will actively pursue his role and that relations between Japan and the Soviet Union will develop further.

Shevardnadze "strongly promoted 'new thinking' foreign policy and we warmly welcome him back," Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato told a regularly scheduled news conference.

He indicated he did not expect the return of Shevardnadze to alter Japan-Soviet relations.

Takeshita on Food Aid for USSR, Uruguay Round

OW2011092191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0828 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 20 KYODO—Former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita expressed concern Wednesday that funding for emergency food aid to the Soviet Union is being used to procure nonessential items such as cigarette filters.

Items included among emergency food aid requested by the Soviet Union include cigarette filters and sausage skins, Takeshita said in a speech at a Tokyo hotel.

"I wonder why these items are necessary? Powdered milk would be more understandable," said Takeshita, one of Japan's most influential political figures.

A Foreign Ministry official said that the two countries have not yet agreed on disbursal of the 600 million dollar pledge of food aid, and that it is premature to discuss which items are appropriate.

The Soviet Union might regard a dispute over specific products as "unnecessary intervention," the official said.

Details on a 500 million dollar loan for food and medicine offered in October, and an earlier 100 million dollar loan promised last December are likely to be agreed to by the end of the year, said the official, who requested anonymity.

Turning to the Uruguay Round of multilateral talks for freer agricultural trade, Takeshita suggested that Japan should prepare to make concessions at the talks in concert with the United States and Europe.

"Discussions should proceed after we put the contents of our pockets on the table," Takeshita said. He added there could be a time lag before all parties are prepared to do so.

Takeshita's remarks follow comments earlier in the week by two other influential conservative politicians, Shin Kanemaru and Ichiro Ozawa.

Kanemaru and Ozawa called for greater flexibility in response to demands that Japan end a near ban on rice imports.

Takeshita, who in 1989 stepped down as prime minister to help his ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] recover from the recruit stocks-for-favors scandal, said he is now sorry that the public has come to regard revision of the election system as the core of political reform.

Streamlining parliamentary procedures and efforts to increase accountability in campaign fund-raising are also important aspects of political reform, he said.

Takeshita said that it would be difficult to arrive at an early solution on the debate over whether to revise the current three-to-five-seat districts to single-seat districts.

Advocates of the plan say that elections will be less costly and more policy-oriented if members of the same political party are not forced to run against each other in the same district.

Takeshita has repeatedly rejected requests by his colleagues in the LDP to head a committee on revamping the party's strategy on political reform.

He is widely regarded as the only politician with sufficient influence to muster support for the reforms, which have met with resistance among ruling party members as well as opposition parties.

Business Leaders Leave on Tour of Soviet Union

OW2011045191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0306 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 20 KYODO—A delegation of Japanese business leaders left Tokyo on Wednesday for an 11-day tour of the Soviet Union that will include talks with President Mikhail Gorbachev and other government leaders.

The 35-member business leaders' delegation for the study of economic cooperation is the first large-scale Japanese mission to visit the Soviet Union since the abortive coup there in August.

The group comprises executives from 24 major corporations in the energy, steel, construction, electric power, and financial industries.

The tour has been organized by the private think tank Shinkoso Kenkyukai (Policy Innovation Forum) and KYODO NEWS SERVICE.

Toshikuni Yahiro, vice chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) and a senior adviser to the trading giant Mitsui and Co., heads the delegation.

Katsumi Endo, KYODO's executive director and editor-in-chief, is the mission's deputy chief.

The delegation will take a first-hand look at the Soviet economy and explore the potential for private-sector cooperation between the two countries.

It also plans to hold talks with Gorbachev and leaders of the Russian Federation on such topics as the country's moves toward a market economy, conversion of military facilities for production of consumer products, financial policy, resource development projects, and the long-standing Japanese-Soviet territorial dispute.

DPRK Normalization Talks Continue for 3d Day

OW2011034191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0243 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Beijing, Nov. 20 KYODO—Japan and North Korea on Wednesday entered a third day of the fifth round of diplomatic normalization talks here to take up questions including the Japanese wives of North Koreans.

Negotiators from the two nations extended the scheduled two-day talks to discuss the issues of dialogue between North and South Korea and allowing the Japanese wives of repatriated North Koreans to make visits to Japan, Japanese officials said.

Japan will press North Korea for information on the Japanese women and urge Pyongyang to allow them visit their families in Japan, the officials said.

An estimated 6,000 Japanese women went to North Korea with their husbands in the period from 1959 to 1962. They are forbidden by Pyongyang to return to Japan, even for brief visits with their families.

Sources accompanying the North Korean delegation to the talks said Tuesday that the delegates will hand over a list of 12 Japanese women, some of whom Japan had made inquiries about.

Five of the women on the list died, the sources said.

Japan will ask North Korea for information on another 20 such women, Japanese officials said.

Chon In-chol, head of the North Korean delegation, told reporters after Tuesday's talks that the talks made progress and both sides could find a point of agreement in the process of the discussions.

Uniden To Build Phone Assembly Plant in China

OW2011012491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0035 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 20 KYODO—Major Japanese wireless telephone manufacturer Uniden Corp. will produce cordless, car, and portable phones at an assembly line in China starting next spring, an industrial newspaper reported Wednesday.

Uniden will build a plant in the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone in Guangdong Province to produce the telephones for export to the United States and Europe, the NIKKEI SANGYO SHIMBUN said.

Citing cost considerations, the company reportedly will have the new China assembly plant produce more than 80 percent of its telephones, while it will close its plant in Hong Kong and gradually scale down its Taiwan production facility, the paper said.

The company will invest 2.5 billion yen in the China plant, which will initially produce 400,000 telephones a month with a 2,000-employee work force before it goes to full operation with 5,000 employees by next summer, the industrial daily said.

In addition to the cost benefits, Uniden reportedly is interested in producing its products in China because the U.S. is eventually expected to grant preferential status to China in communication machinery, the paper said.

Uniden is currently planning and developing products in Japan and producing them in nearby Asian nations such as the Philippines, where the company produces other wireless equipment, the daily said.

KHI To Export Fertilizer Plant To Iran

OW2011003491 Tokyo KYODO in English 2338 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 20 KYODO—Kawasaki Heavy Industries Ltd. (KHI) will export a fertilizer plant to Iran for about 30 billion yen, the NIKKAN KOGYO SHIMBUN reported Wednesday.

This will be the first chemical plant exported to Iran by the Kobe-based major shipbuilder, which is expected to reach a final agreement by the end of December, the paper said.

Upon the final agreement, construction of the plant with daily production capacity of 1,500 tons of urea and 1,000 tons of ammonia will start early next year at the earliest, it said.

The move is aimed at beefing up the company's chemical plant business, which one executive said has been sluggish recently.

Fuji Bank To Open Vienna, East Europe Offices

OW1511223191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1311 GMT 15 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 15 (KYODO)—Fuji Bank announced Friday it will open a representative office in Vienna next Tuesday to provide financial and information services in Eastern Europe.

The office will cover businesses not only in Austria but in other East European nations such as Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, and Romania, bank officials said.

The move reflects the bank's expectation that more Japanese companies will advance into the East European nations and trade between the region and Japan will boom in the future as the nations concerned develop market economies, the officials said.

The Vienna office will be the 23rd representative office overseas for Fuji, which also has 17 overseas branches and 19 overseas subsidiaries, they said.

Sony To Build Factory in Former East Germany

OW1811113291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1102 GMT 18 Nov 91

[Text] The Hague, Nov. 18 KYODO—Akio Morita, chairman of Sony Corp., said Monday the company is studying plans to build a production facility in former East Germany.

Morita, a member of a Japanese economic mission visiting Europe, said the company is also ready to cooperate in the economic reconstruction of eastern Germany.

Morita said the project calls for production of television sets and audio visual equipment in a district where the German Government will develop a high technology complex.

HDTV Research Project Launched With France

OW1911084091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0808 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 19 KYODO—Japan and France agreed Tuesday to launch a joint project this year to develop technology that would allow the two countries to exchange high definition television programs, government officials said.

The officials said the agreement was reached between Posts and Telecommunications Minister Hideo Watanabe and his French counterpart Jean-Marie Rausch at a meeting Tuesday.

Japan, the United States, and European countries are planning to use three different methods of broadcasting high definition TV signals, making program exchanges between them impossible.

Tuesday's agreement stemmed from a basic accord reached in June this year, when France and Japan agreed to jointly develop a software conversion system, the officials said.

Finance Ministry Proposes Scandal Watchdog Body

OW1911123991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1200 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 19 KYODO—The Finance Ministry has proposed a set of measures to prevent scandals involving commercial banks, including the establishment of a watchdog body made up of legal experts by the industry organization, officials said Tuesday.

The officials said the ministry also called on the Federation of Bankers Associations of Japan to inaugurate a group of nonmember executives to examine the management policy of member banks.

The proposals were set forth at a follow-up session held by the Financial System Research Council, an advisory panel to the finance minister, to discuss ways to prevent a recurrence of the recent financial scandals, they said.

The proposed watchdog body, consisting of legal experts recruited from outside the banking industry, will check the management policy of member banks which tend to give top priority to profit making, the officials said.

It also will help work out voluntary measures to regulate banking operations and disclose information on business performance of member banks, the officials said.

The ministry also said it plans to enact a law setting the ratio of various forms of assets held by banks, the officials said.

Plans Revised Securities Law

OW2011130891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1232 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 20 KYODO—The Finance Ministry will submit a new securities and exchange law, providing tougher penalties and modifying stock brokerage commissions, to the next regular session of the Diet early next year, ministry sources said Wednesday.

The new law is aimed at preventing scandals involving brokerage houses such as loss compensation for favored clients, they said.

The sources said the new law will abolish a provision requiring securities firms to collect fixed amounts of commissions according to volumes of shares traded, which currently range from a low of 0.075 percent to a high of 1.15 percent.

The move is an initial step toward total liberalization of stock brokerage commissions, they said.

The ministry is considering phased liberalization of the commissions to avoid a serious impact on the market.

The present fixed commission rates help brokerage houses produce huge profits, providing them a source of funds for loss compensation, the sources said.

Stock brokerage and other commission rates are fixed by stock exchanges in Japan while such commissions are deregulated in the United States and Britain.

The new law will provide stiffer penalties on corporations violating regulations, they said.

Regulations on Cession of Bank Credits Relaxed

OW2011095791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0857 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 20 KYODO—The Finance Ministry said Wednesday it has relaxed regulations on cession of credits held by commercial banks.

The ministry said the step, which went into effect Wednesday, is aimed at increasing fluidity of claims on loans.

Ministry officials said banks will be allowed to sell both long- and short-term claims without the prior consent of debtors.

The officials said regulations on buyers have also been relaxed and institutional investors, such as pension and mutual aid association and investment trusts, will be allowd to purchase such claims.

They said relaxation of the regulations will help commercial banks raise their net worth ratio to operating funds to levels set by the bank for international settlements.

Cabinet Approves Pay Hike for Public Workers

OW1911043891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0239 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 19 KYODO—The cabinet approved Tuesday a 3.71 percent pay hike for public workers, which will cost the government 410 billion yen in additional budgetary expenditure, Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata said.

The raise, which represents an average monthly increase of 11,244 yen, is in line with a recommendation by the national personnel agency in August and comes in addition to other regular increases pegged to inflation.

Hata said at a press conference after the cabinet meeting the government is considering a supplementary budget to fill the new fiscal demand stemming from the wage hike and other unexpected expenditures, but refused to say when it will be compiled or how much it will contain.

"We have to keep tabs on the new fiscal demand and tax revenues down to the wire," he said.

Tanabe Unchallenged in Reelection as SDP Leader

OW2011092091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0837 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 20 KYODO—Makoto Tanabe was assured of reelection as chairman of the Social Democratic Party [SDP] on Wednesday when no one challenged him for the post, party officials said.

Tanabe was the sole contender for the leadership of Japan's biggest opposition party. No one else registered as a candidate for the post of chairman of the SDP's leadership body, the Central Executive Committee.

The party's leadership election was set for December 8 and 9 but there will be no vote.

Tanabe's reelection will be confirmed at a party convention next month. He will be given a full two-year term.

Tanabe, elected SDP chairman in July, is serving the remaining five months of a term left open by former party leader Takako Doi, who resigned in June to take responsibility for the party's poor showing in local elections.

Mongolia

Great People's Hural Opens; Chairman Interviewed

LD1911205491 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1630 GMT 15 Nov 91

[Report by A. Ukhov on the second session of the Mongolian Great People's Hural in Ulaanbaatar, including interview with Great People's Hural Chairman Urtnasan; from the "TV Inform" newscast—live or recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] The second session of the Great People's Hural has opened in Ulaanbaatar.

[Ukhov] The deputies' work began against a background of most difficult economic, social and political problems. Virtually all branches of industry are in the grip of crisis, but especially power engineering. The lights are being turned off on a rotational basis in all areas of the town every day for an hour or two. The total volume of output has fallen in comparison with 1990 by almost 11 percent. The number of unemployed people is rising—there are now 52,000 of them. A ration card system has been introduced for certain basic food items such as meat, sugar, and oil, and the prices for those products for which this system has not been introduced—as Mongolians bitterly joke—are galloping like the famous Mongolian sheep. For example, the price of milk has risen five-fold and the prices of consumer goods and children's clothes have risen from two to ten-fold. In response—strikes. In October alone the transport workers and tanners were on strike. The transition to a market economy is not proceeding simply. Therefore, a number of deputies have proposed changing the agenda, putting a report by the government as one of the first items. So far, however, the chief concern of the session remains unchanged: the adoption of a new supreme code for the Mongolian constitution, which has remained unaltered for 30 years, and, as the deputies discover, is constraining the democratic transformations in the country. On the first day Deputy Urtnasan, who was formerly the chairman of the association of agricultural cooperatives and a member of the Small Hural, was elected chairman of the Great People's Hural.

Deputy Urtnasan, what do you think, can the adoption of the new supreme code which is expected now at the second session of the Great People's Hural help to improve the lives of the people in any way?

[Urtnasan, in Mongolian, fading into Russian translation] This is a difficult question. The deputies, however, should approach the adoption of this decision with a full sense of their responsibility, because the new supreme code of Mongolia corresponds to the interest of the electorate. [video shows Ukhov standing in a square; factories, street scenes, and Great Hural in session; close-up of Urtnasan, identified by caption]

New Committee To Coordinate Foreign Loans

OW1911132991 Beijing XINHUA in English 1232 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, November 19 (XINHUA)—The Mongolian Government is to set up a coordinative committee on foreign loans and assistance, the Mongolian newspaper 'PEOPLE'S RIGHTS' reported today.

The committee will devise a policy for the effective distribution and use of foreign loans and aid. It will also coordinate the policy's implementation.

Several countries and international organizations have promised to grant 150 million U.S. dollar loans on favourable terms as well as 50 million U.S. dollar grace payments to Mongolia this year.

Ulaanbaatar plans to use the money to buy raw materials, factory spares and daily commodities as well as set up some medium-range and small factories to overcome the current economic crisis.

Farm Official on Unprecedented Slump in Harvest

LD1611123191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0506 GMT 16 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Chernov]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 16 Nov—J. Gunregjab, the principal agronomist of the Mongolian People's Republic [MPR] and chairman of the Ministry of Agriculture

Council on Arable Policy, has described the fall in this year's harvest as being without precedent in the history of Mongolian agriculture.

According to provisional figures, published in the newspaper ARDYN ERH today, the country harvested 591,000 tonnes of grain crops, 95,400 tonnes of potato, and 19,500 tonnes of vegetables. These figures are, respectively, 154,000 tonnes, 25,000 tonnes, and 18,000 tonnes lower than the set targets.

One of the reasons for this slump is the unfavorable weather. During the fall harvest work, 23 out of 45 days were rainy. Other reasons were the inefficiency of farmers themselves and the poor supply of agricultural spares. Furthermore, this year's harvest was also affected by the breakup of large state farms into small independent units, which has accompanied the privatization of agricultural associations. This has led to dissipation and shortage of equipment and poor coordination of work.

Statistics Board Report Notes Lower Retail Trade

LD1811204491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0734 GMT 18 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Poznakherev]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 18 Nov—Retail trade turnover in Mongolia for nine months of the current year amounted to 7,313 billion tugriks, which is 7.1 percent lower than the same period last year. This is noted in a report by the Mongolian State Statistics Board issued here. The report also emphasizes that sales of goods to the rural population fell by 15.1 percent.

According to the board, foodstuffs stocks, given average consumption, were as follows at the beginning of November: flour for 15 days; rice for 49 days; millet for 17 days; and lump sugar for three days. The document also stresses that stocks of soap, tea, and wines and spirits are very low.

North Korea

Spokesman Rejects U.S. 'Pressure' for Inspection

SK2011105191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Pyongyang November 20 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea gave today answers to questions raised by a KCNA reporter regarding the current stepped-up moves of the United States and some other countries to put international pressure on the DPRK over the question of nuclear inspection.

He flatly denied as unfounded and false the rumour spread by the United States and its satellite forces these days that the DPRK would "develop" nuclear weapons within a few months. They are circulating such a rumour in an attempt to increase international pressure on us, he said, and continued:

Only yesterday they had said that it would take a few years for us to "develop" nuclear weapons. But, abruptly changing their position, they are alleging that we would "develop" nuclear weapons within a few months. This itself shows that their allegation is a cock-and-bull story. Facts prove that they, in actuality, are not interested in the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

If the United States, he went on, truly intend to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula, there will arise no problem, provided that it withdraw its nuclear weapons from South Korea, remove the nuclear threat to us and then proceed to verify it through a simultaneous inspection of the North and the South as we have already proposed, instead of resorting to pressure on us. This is a most realistic and reasonable solution to it, and there can be no other condition, he declared.

Noting that the United States and some forces are spreading a false rumour that the DPRK is "evading" a nuclear inspection by continuously raising "new demands," the spokesman said this, too, comes from their intention to keep hold on South Korea as a nuclear base and increase international pressure on us.

Consistent is our stand on nuclear inspection, he said, and stressed: From the very beginning we have proposed that the United States withdraw its nuclear weapons from South Korea, remove the nuclear threat to us and give assurances that it would not use nuclear weapons and the North and the South undergo a simultaneous inspection.

We have never objected to nuclear inspection. What we are against is not nuclear inspection itself but the unreasonable attempts to force nuclear inspection on us alone who have no nuclear arms, far from accepting a nuclear inspection of South Korea where nuclear weapons have been deployed. There is nothing we have deducted from or added to this stand.

The spokesman contended that the United States must not put up new pretexts but boldly choose to withdraw its nuclear weapons from South Korea and accept a simultaneous inspection.

Commenting on the public opinion that the DPRK is taking a "negative" view of the proposals brought forward by Bush and the South Korean authorities, he said if the statement of Bush that the U.S. nuclear weapons would be withdrawn from South Korea and the South Korean chief executive's declaration of the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula are carried into practice to the letter, it would mean some progress in denuclearizing the Korean peninsula and bailing our nation out of a nuclear scourge.

However, it is hard to believe them only in view of their words, he said, recalling that many a time the United States has failed to honor their words in its relations with small countries. Pointing out that it is not secret that more than 1,000 pieces of U.S. nuclear weapons are actually deployed in South Korea, he said: The United States, however, is setting afloat the rumor that some 100 pieces of nuclear weapons are in South Korea at present.

We are paying attention to the ill-boding moves noted in the attitude of the United States after the publication of its program for the withdrawal of nuclear weapons and are following their practical action, he stressed.

Baker Remarks Called 'Insidious' Propaganda

SK2011055691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0454 GMT 20 Nov 91

["Unreasonable Pressure"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang November 20 (KCNA)—U.S. Secretary of State Baker, during his recent Asian tour, prattled that pressure should be put on the DPRK to accept "nuclear inspection," saying North Korea poses "the greatest menace to the security of the Asia-Pacific region."

NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today brands this as an insidious, false propaganda distorting truth and designed to gratify their wild ambition to establish domination over the whole of Korea and Asia by strength.

It is none other than the United States which is creating the biggest threat to security in the Asia-Pacific region at present, the news analyst says, and goes on:

The United States is seeking a nuclear war adventure, having deployed huge nuclear weapons in this region, in an effort to contain the forces of progress and independence by force of arms and establish a new order under its domination. They are trying to make a breakthrough for it on the Korean peninsula. This is illustrated by the fact that the U.S. imperialists have deployed more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons and are massing latest combat equipment in South Korea and are more frantically staging nuclear war gambles. Whatever sophism the very one who permanently threatens security in this region may let out in a bid to shirk his responsibility for it, nobody will believe him.

In his outcry on our "threat" and the like, Baker sought the same purpose as U.S. President Bush who recently called for "international control" over us on the plea of "fictitious development of nuclear weapons by North Korea." It is, in short, part of the United States' unjust moves to force a nuclear inspection on us. In this way the United States is trying to give authenticity to its false report about our "development of nuclear weapons" before the world and thus isolate our Republic and resort to a collective pressure and attack against us by forming a sort of alliance.

Our "program for the development of nuclear weapons" is a fiction invented by the United States. We have neither intention nor capacity to develop nuclear weapons.

The United States must stop its false propaganda about "development of nuclear weapons" by someone and desist from putting unreasonable pressure on us to accept nuclear inspection.

U.S. Official Denounced as 'Colonial Dominator'

SK2011111591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005 GMT 20 Nov 91

["High-Handed Act of Colonial Dominator"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang November 20 (KCNA)—The U.S. assistant secretary of state for security who flew into South Korea with the secretary of state a few days ago attempted to go back to the United States without the examination of his passport by the puppet authorities.

Commenting on this, MINJU CHOSON today brands this as a high- handed act of a colonial dominator.

It is a duty of a foreigner to go through required procedures and get permission according to the immigration law of a country or a region when he goes into and out of it, the news analyst notes, and continues:

This is a demand under international law and a matter of common knowledge pertaining to the international usage.

The act of the U.S. assistant secretary of state was an act that could be done only in such a colonial dependency as South Korea and this betrays the true color of the colonial rulers who enjoy extraterritorial privileges there.

Shultz, a former U.S. secretary of state who flew into South Korea a few years ago, entered the office room of the puppet foreign minister with a hunting dog allegedly to detect explosives, and took the "host's seat" and gave instructions to the puppets at the talks.

It is owing to such flunkeyist traitors as the No Tae-u group that the U.S. imperialists can strut about like the governor- general of a suzerain state.

The U.S. imperialists should refrain from carrying matters with a high hand as the colonial ruler in South Korea, go back to their den and the No Tae-u group should step down from "power" instead of committing all kinds of mean acts to prolong its remaining days under the patronage of its master.

Delegation Head Reports Japan Normalization Talks

SK2011094691 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] The fifth intergovermental full-dress talks for the normalization of Korea-Japan diplomatic relations continued yesterday morning and afternoon in Beijing. At the end of the morning session Chon In-chol, head of our government delegation, gave a news briefing.

According to his briefing after the morning session, the question of compensation, the second item on the agenda, was discussed at the talks. At the talks, our side made clear our stance on the remarks on this question that the Japanese side made in the past fourth round of talks.

Our side said that the compensation we mean is compensation for the immeasurable human and material losses, misfortune, and sufferings Japan inficted upon the Korean people by invading Korea by force in the past, depriving Korea of its sovereignty and territory, thus establishing colonial rule over it. What we claim is that since the Japanese prime minister made an apology for the sufferings and losses Japan imposed upon the Korean people in the past, approriate material compensation should be made.

Our side charged that the Japanese side is refusing to pay compensations while expressing apology. Recalling the Japanese side's argument at the fourth round of talks that there is no legal ground to make compensation because the tremendous human and material losses Japan had inflicted upon the Korean people in the past were something done under the then law of Japan, our side charged the Japanese side, claiming that this assertion is one designed to cover up and embellish the criminal acts of Japanese militarism in the past on which history had already passed judgement and is an act of evading its responsibility for compensation with sincerity.

Saying that because the Japanese side tried to evade its responsibility for the past and to justify this on the pretext of the so-called law in force at that time we had no other choice but to clarify the truth in view of international law and from the moral, ethical point of view. Our side, to begin with, refuted the unreasonable argument of the Japanese side that there is no legal ground to make compensation for human losses. Noting that the Japanese side's argument on the then law runs totally counter to the international commitments and the provisions of international law at the end of World War II, which were approved by Japan itself, our side proved this by citing appropriate provisions of the Cairo Declaration, the Potsdam Declaration, and the appropriate regulations of the Far East International Military Court. Then, our side stressed that the Japanese side's argument on the then law is anachronistic not only from the viewpoint of international practice, but also from a moral and ethical point of view and is even against international common sense.

Our side also explained, citing concrete examples, the case where other countries made compensation with sincerity even for their acts of the past for which there were legal grounds at that time, frankly admitting such acts to be inhumane ones from today's point of view. And noting that contrary to such a case Japan is, without hesitation, claiming that all illegal, criminal acts that it perpetrated against the Korean people in the past were just legally, our side asked in return: How can we assess such an attitude on the part of the Japanese side?

Next, our side exposed the unreasonable nature of the Japanese side's demands that our side present objective and concrete legal information and data on the human and material losses. Noting the fact that already in the first round of talks our side presented to the Japanese side the data on more than 1.1 million of our people who were sacrificed, the data on our political prisoners and those people who were drafted for labor and for the Japanese army, the data on those Korean women who forciably served as entertainers for Japanese soldiers, the data on those who were wounded through forced labor and in the Japanese army, and other data for use in the compensation assessments, but the Japanese side asked our side to present concrete legal materials proving them, our side stressed that such an attitude of the Japanese side can be regarded, in essence, as an act designed to evade compensation.

As to the Japanese side's demand for the presentation of legal materials proving who died, when, where, and why, our side said that since it is the Japanese authorities who arrested and killed many Korean patriots, the Japanese side must have the lists of the names of Korean dead and records on their deaths, adding that this demand of the Japanese side shows its intention to refuse to compensate for the human losses. Then, our side said that if the Japanese side was not bereft of conscience, it should withdraw its preposterous demands and present and make public necessary legal evidence of its own accord to make the talks productive and, thus, it should show its sincerity in the discussions.

Next, our side revealed with detailed materials the unreasonable claim by the Japanese side that it legally took resources and properties from Korea in the past. Our side said that the assertion of the Japanese side which claimed that Korea's material resources were brought into Japan legally and after paying a price for them, nakedly reveals the aggressive doctrine of the Japanese colonial rulers in the past.

After the end of the afternoon session, Chon In-chol, head of our country's government delegation, held a news briefing and notified the reporters of the result of the afternoon session.

Chon In-chol said that in the afternoon session the rest of the second item was discussed and discussion of the third item begun.

In the talks, our side once again revealed our position regarding the issue of nuclear inspection which the

Japanese side once again put forth. Our side said that for the Japanese side to once again put forth the issue of the nuclear inspection creates an artificial barrier in the talks and shows that it is pursuing another purpose. Our side once again elucidated that this is not a matter to be discussed in the DPRK-Japan talks.

After emphasizing that as a nonnuclear state, our side does not oppose nuclear inspection, our side said that we do not have nuclear weapons, do not have the intention or capability to produce them, and what we oppose is not the nuclear inspection itself but the unreasonable act of trying to impose a nuclear inspection on us unilaterally. Our side insisted that if nuclear inspection is to be carried out, it should also be carried out at the same time on the U.S. nuclear bases in South Korea.

Next, our side said that if the issue of signing the Nuclear Safeguards Accord is to be sincerely resolved, the international pressure on us should be stopped, and stressed that this matter will be settled automatically if unreasonable pressure on us is removed and impartiality is ensured.

Our side pointed out that if the Japanese side reflects on this matter with fairness, it will not be able to daringly deny the fact that the United States and the South Korean authorities are responsible for not resolving the issue of nuclear inspection and delaying this matter, and that the Japanese side, which has been giving support to these countries, is also responsible for this unjust position.

Our side joined the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty in 1985. Since then our side reasonably proposed to the U.S. side that we will abide by the responsibility of the treaty and proposed that the United States which possesses nuclear weapons sincerely abide by the responsibility of the treaty also. However, it ignored our just demand and said that it does not have nuclear weapons in South Korea and only demanded that our side respond to the nuclear inspection unilaterally. Next, our side also emphasized that according to the declaration by Bush to reduce strategic nuclear weapons, the United States had acknowledged the fact that it possesses nuclear weapons in South Korea and recognized the need for their withdrawal. Therefore, this showed that it has been a continuous nuclear threat to us, a nonnuclear state, by violating the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, and has acknowledged the fact that it has been increasing the number and the distribution of nuclear weapons.

Under the condition that the United States acknowledged the fact that there are nuclear weapons in South Korea and that there is a need to withdraw these nuclear weapons, our side said that we can say that the road to signing the Nuclear Safeguards Accord has been opened and pointed out that if the United States had recognized from the first the justness of withdrawing its nuclear weapons from South Korea and had taken measures for this, the issue of the Nuclear Safeguards Accord would have been resolved at that time.

Next, our side talked about Japan which is blindly supporting the United States' unjust act even now and revealed that Japan took the lead in the adoption of a resolution putting pressure upon us at the Governors Council of the International Atomic Energy Agency held in September. Our side said that the adoption of such a resolution did not promote the signing of the Nuclear Safeguards Accord but totally spoiled the atmosphere of signing the accord by deliberately building and artificial barrier in its way.

Our side made it clear once again that our country is an independent country and never acts according to someone else's interference in its internal affairs or to pressure, and our side stated that we will in the future not sign any agreement under conditions of unjust international pressure infringing upon our sovereignty and will approach resolving the issue with sincerity only when such pressure is removed.

Pointing out that the Japanese side is making quite a noise about the declaration of denuclearization published by No Tae- u of South Korea, as if it were a big thing, our side said the proposal of the person in authority of South Korea is in fact of no value compared with the proposal for making the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free zone that our side put forward anew on 30 July. Our side then said that it is nonsensical for No Tae-u to argue for denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, not uttering even a word about the U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea. Isn't it ludicrous that only the Japanese Government tells us to accept it, as if it were something good, our side asked.

Our side said: When we put forward the proposal for making the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free zone, Japan kept mum about this, but, no sooner had No Tae-u made the denuclearization declaration which was of no value in comparision with our proposal than it talked a great deal about it, as if it were a big event. We cannot understand this. This shows fully that Japan, which manifested its intention to establish friendly relations with us, is still sticking to its foolhardy policy of favoring only South Korea, far from sympathizing with and supporting our country which has been exposed to constant nuclear threat.

Our side then stressed the fact that before the person in authority in South Korea announced the so-called denuclearization declaration we had already proposed that the North and the South announce a North-South joint declaration on making the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free zone before the end of 1992. Then, our side advised the Japanese side not to listen to the remarks of the person in authority in South Korea who makes empty talk about denuclearization and uses tricks, but to pay due attention to the proposal of ours if Japan really wants to resolve the issue of our signing of a nuclear safeguards accord.

Saying that all facts vividly prove that our assertion--that in order for us to sign the Nuclear Safeguards

Accord, U.S. nuclear weapons should be withdrawn from South Korea, the U.S. nuclear threat against us should be eliminated, and nuclear inspection should be conducted simultaneously in the North and the South—is a farsighted, correct one, our side stressed that if the United States completely withdraws its nuclear weapons from South Korea as it promised, totally removes the nuclear threat against us, and accepts the simultaneous inspection of the North and the South, the way for our signing of the Nuclear Safeguards Accord will naturally open.

However, in the talks the Japanese side did not heed our side's just stance and, instead, spoke up for the stance of the United States and South Korea, as if it were the spokesman of the U.S. and South Korean authorities.

Our side strongly refuted again such an unjust attitude of the Japanese side and stressed that if the Japanese side really wants to see the nuclear inspection issue resolved, it should take a just stance, at least.

Saying that our Republic is the country which is actually under a nuclear threat among those nonnuclear countries which have joined the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, our side pointed out the wrong attitude of turning away such a specific reality by the Japanese side is placing unilateral pressure upon us without reason.

In conclusion, pointing out that there is nothing to be discussed with the Japanese side over the matter of signing the Nuclear Safeguards Accord, our side warned once again that the Japanese side must renounce its prejudiced stand and lend an ear to our just assertions.

Japanese Side Arranges Party for Talks Delegates

SK2011055991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0503 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Beijing November 19 (KCNA)—The Japanese Government delegation to the fifth intergovernmental full-dress talks for the normalisation of diplomatic relations between the DPRK and Japan arranged a party for the DPRK Government delegation in Beijing on the evening of November 19.

Present on invitation were the members of the DPRK Government delegation headed by Chon In-chol, vice-minister of foreign affairs, and a minister of the DPRK Embassy in Beijing.

The members of the Japanese Government delegation led by Noboru Nakahira, representative of the Japanese Government, and a minister of the Japanese Embassy in Beijing were present.

Words of greetings were exchanged at the party.

The party proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Third North-South Contact Held at Panmunjom

SK2011103891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Panmunjom November 20 (KCNA)—The third contact for the fifth North-South high-level talks took place at the Tongil House in the North side's portion of Panmunjom from ten this morning.

The contact was held in camera.

The sides continued the discussion of a joint document of agreement to be adopted at the fifth talks.

The sides agreed to have the fourth contact in the South side's portion of Panmunjom on November 26.

Foreign Ministry Issues Statement on Mideast

SK2011054891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0450 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Pyongyang November 20 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in a statement issued to the press on November 19 said: The Israeli Knesset recently adopted a "resolution" contending that the Golan Heights, an occupied territory of Syria, can not be an object of negotiation at the Mideast peace conference. This vividly shows that Israel is not interested at all in peace and security of the Middle East but only seeks ambitions for territorial expansion.

The spokesman continued:

We strongly denounce the "resolution" of the Israeli Knesset as a grave challenge to world peace and international law.

Israel is now accelerating the construction of new "settlements" on the Golan Heights in defiance of the strong opposition of the Arab countries and peaceloving people of the world.

The construction of "settlements" is a deliberate act to lead the Middle East peace process to a breakdown.

It is a legitimate right of the Syrian people to restore the Golan Heights.

The Korean people extend firm support and solidarity to the friendly Syrian people in their struggle to take back the Golan Heights and put an end to the occupation of Arab countries by Israel.

Israel must immediately stop the construction of "settlements" on the occupied Golan Heights and quit all the Arab lands including this Heights.

The Korean people will in the future, too, as in the past, actively support the just struggle of the Syrian and other Arab peoples for peace, security and territorial integrity.

Remarks by South's Defense Minister Denounced

SK2011054291 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0447 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Pyongyang November 20 (KCNA)—Yi Chong-ku, "minister of national defence" of South Korea, at the "National Assembly" on Nov. 14 prattled that the "demand for reduction of military spendings" should be stopped and the arms buildup including "sophisticated arms expansion" can never be postponed, according to a radio report from Seoul.

This is a jargon going against peace and peaceful reunification on the Korean peninsula.

The fact fully reveals that the No Tae-u group which is throwing a wet blanket over the mounting fever of the fellow countrymen for reunification and seeking arms buildup to step up the preparations for a war against the North behind the curtain of dialogue is, indeed, a dyed-in-the-wool traitor and anti-reunification splittist.

The No group must clearly know that if it continue arms buildup and head for a war against the North, ignoring the ardent desire of the entire fellow countrymen for reunification, it will face a stern judgement by history.

Kim Il-song Receives Family of Deceased Official

SK2011111691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1025 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Pyongyang November 20 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the bereaved family of the late Mr. Choe Tok-sin who was chairman of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Chondoist Chongu Party, chairman of the Central Guidance Committee of the Korean Chondoist Association and vice- chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland.

Present on the occasion were Comrade Yun Ki-pok and Presidium member of the C.C., the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland Yo Yon-ku.

President Kim Il-song had a cordial conversation with the family, recalling with deep emotion Mr. Choe Tok-sin, a patriot and prominent political activist who took a true patriotic path in his declining years and devoted his remaining days to the prosperity and development of the socialist homeland and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

He entertained the family to a luncheon.

Kim Il-song Receives Outgoing Togolese Envoy

SK2011111791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1024 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Pyongyang November 20 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received Yao Bloua Agbo, Togolese ambassador E.P. to Korea, who paid a farewell call on him.

Present there was Vice-premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam.

President Kim Il-song conversed with the ambassador.

KCNA Reviews 18 Nov NODONG SINMUN

SK1811060791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0500 GMT 18 Nov 91

[Review of NODONG SINMUN]

[Text] Pyongyang November 18 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries news that the great leader President Kim Il-song sent messages to foreign party leaders in reply to their messages of greetings on the occasion of the 46th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Ancash National University of Peru decided to award honorary degrees of doctor of economics and professor to President Kim Il- song, says the paper.

The paper reports that the university decided to award honorary degrees of doctor of economics and professor to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Given in the paper is news that President Kim Il-song received solidarity letters from different countries supporting the Korean people's cause of national reunification.

The Tanzanian news agency and radio reported that President Kim Il-song congratulated the participants in the meeting of sergeant majors of the Korean People's Army, according to the paper.

The paper carries its reporter's article on the Panjang Temporary Secret Base located in Chongjin, North Hamgyong Province, associated with an unforgettable historical event of revolution in which Comrade Kim Il-song led the operation for the liberation of the country by the internal revolutionary forces to a brilliant victory in the period of the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

The paper gives an account of a meeting of working people held in South Pyongan Province to carry through the teachings given by President Kim Il-song on carrying on field irrigation projects in the province.

Seen in the paper is news that a meeting for year-end account settlement and income distribution held at Mangyongdae cooperative farm, Mangyongdae District, and that working people in different sectors of the national economy are effecting great innovation in production and construction to greet the election of deputies to city and county people's assemblies with great success in labour.

The paper runs an article headlined "Collectivist Method Is a Powerful One To Give Full Play to the Superiority of Socialist Agriculture."

T.B. Mukherjee, president of the Asian Regional Institute of the Chuche Idea, on a visit to our country, stressed that people can carry the revolutionary cause to accomplishment only when they are guided by the chuche idea, says the paper.

The paper rounds up voices of the world public demanding the pullout of the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

Remaining in the limelight of the paper is news that foreign public figures demanded the return of old man Yi In-mo, former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army, to the northern half of Korea.

The paper carries an article entitled "Intelligence and Investigation Should Be Stopped in South Korea."

The paper in a commentary sternly denounces U.S. President Bush for scheming to put unreasonable pressure upon us, talking about the fictitous "development of nuclear weapons" in our country.

The international news columns of the paper include reports that the State Council of China made public a decision on developing vocational technical education, a spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of China rejected an attempt to "internationalize the issue of Hong Kong" and the president of Pakistan expressed optimism about the prospect of relations with India.

The paper carries economic briefs from Vietnam, Laos, Thailand and Pakistan.

The paper informs the readers of the current situation of the Philippines.

KCNA Reviews 19 Nov Pyongyang Press

SK1911103491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0823 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang November 19 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today gives accounts of meetings held in Peru to award the diplomas and medals of honorary doctorate to the great leader President Kim Il- song and the dear leader Kim Chong-il by the Inca Garcilaso de la Vega University.

MINJU CHOSON in an article says that President Kim Il-song built Mt. Paektu, Sajabong and other secret camps in the Mt. Paektu area and actively waged revolutionary activities in them in the latter half of the 1930s, the period of the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

NODONG SINMUN in an article says that Comrade Kim Chong-suk, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter and anti-Japanese [word indistinct], united broad segments of the people around the teacher through an efficient political work among the masses and powerfully encouraged them to the revolutionary struggle during the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

Papers give an account of meetings held in all parts of the country to nominate candidates for deputies to the city and county people's assemblies.

Carried in the press is an article explaining that our election system is the best one that substantially guarantees the independent rights of the popular masses.

The Taehung youth general mining enterprise in South Hamgyong Province completed the building of a long-distance belt conveyer line and the work of carpeting paddy fields with humus soil is being stepped up on cooperative farms throughout the country, says the press.

Papers carry words of foreign visitors to Korea expressing admiration and envy at the Korean-style socialism for the popular masses.

The president of Indonesia met the head of a delegation of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the DPRK, talks were held between the Korean SPA and Indonesian parliamentary delegations and the newly-appointed DPRK ambassador presented his credentials to the Malagsy president, according to the press.

Papers report that the fifth intergovernmental full-dress talks for the normalisation of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations opened in Beijing on November 18 and the Korean Government delegation hosted a reception for the Japanese Government counterpart.

Conveyed in papers are world public voices fully supporting the proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo and demanding the return of old man Yi In-mo who was a former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army to the northern half of Korea.

Given in the press is an account of meetings of students held at Pyongyang University of Medicine and University of Construction and Building Materials Production to denounce the South Korean authorities' suppression of campus.

NODONG SINMUN and MINJU CHOSON carry articles denouncing the scheme of the South Korean authorities to "totally repress" the student movement for the maintenance of their power and long-term office and their argument for "unifying the systems" on the basis of one state and one system under the motto of "national community" and "commonwealth" of the North and the South.

Papers convey the statement of Comrade Fidel Castro that there is no other way but socialism for Cuba and deal with achievements gained by the Cuban working people in socialist consruction.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that voices demanding an early normalisation of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations are ringing throughout Japan and reports about the current situation of the USSR.

The paper runs an article laying bare the reactionary nature of the capitalist election system.

KCNA Reviews 20 Nov Pyongyang Press

SK2011061191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0511 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang November 20 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry a message of greetings sent by the great leader President Kim Il- song to the 7th ministerial meeting of G-77.

The feelings of reverence for the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong- il are growing all the more intense among South Korean people, according to NODONG SINMUN.

MINJU CHOSON in an article says that Comrade Kim Chong-il led with warm care all the deputies selected from the people to always deeply cherish the trust given by the party and the people and properly discharge their mission as faithful servants of the people.

NODONG SINMUN tells the story that President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il led the workers of the Yongsong General Machine Bureau to do all work in a bold, big way.

Carried in the paper are messages of greetings of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] to the 10th congress of the Peruvian Communist Party and to the chairman of the Finnish Social Democratic Party.

The WPK Central Committee sent messages to foreign parties and party leaders in reply to their messages of greetings on the occasion of its 46th birthday, reports the daily.

"Ideological Modelling of the Whole Party and its Unity and Cohesion" is the title of a NODONG SINMUN article.

Econews of the press includes reports about the increasing production at the Hungnam fertilizer complex and the production of iron and steel making headway at the Kim Chaek iron and steel complex.

The fifth intergovernmental full-dress talks for the normalisation of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations continued and the Japanese Government delegation hosted a reception for the Korean counterpart, says the press.

Talks were held between the delegations of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Indonesian Golkar and the general president of the Indonesian Golkar met with the WPK delegation headed by Kim Yong- sun, secretary of the party Central Committee, and the Sierra Leonean president met a WPK delegation headed by Kil Chae-kyong, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, says the press.

The press rounds up voices of the world public expressing admiration at the superiority of the Korean-style socialism.

The spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the DPRK in a statement to the press November 19 strongly demanded that Israel immediately quit the Golan Heights and all other occupied Arab lands, according to the press.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with a commentary denouncing the decision of the No Tae-u fascist clique to supply pistols to police booths.

The South Korean news columns of the press include reports that various strata of people are resolutely fighting against the treacherous and aggressive "wartime host nation support agreement" and woman student Yim Su-kyong exposed the violation of human rights in the Chongju women's prison.

NODONG SINMUN runs an article laying bare the anti-popular nature of the South Korean "election" system.

Conveyed in the press are voices of world public supporting the proposal for reunification through confederation and demanding the repatriation of Yi In-mo to the northern half of Korea.

Papers in their commentaries denounce the recent utterances of the U.S. Secretary of State, Baker, that the DPRK is the biggest threat to security in the Asian-Pacific region and pressure should be put upon the DPRK to accept "nuclear inspection".

The press informs the readers that new communistic political parties made their appearance in the Soviet Union, Cuba and Estonia established diplomatic relations, the Vietnamese paper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN stressed that the ideology of socialism can never be annihilated, the Communist Party of Greece called for a continuous struggle for the victory of the idea of socialism and the Latin American Federation of Journalists denounced the anti-Cuba blockade by the U.S. imperialists.

NODONG SINMUN introduces the peace process stepped up in Cambodia.

South Korea

Defense Minister Welcomes Secretary Cheney

SK1911125091 Seoul YONHAP in English 1234 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 19 (YONHAP)—U.S. Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney arrived in Seoul Tuesday for security consultations with Korean officials, including Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku.

During the 23rd annual Korea-U.S. Security Consultative Meeting (SCM), which opens Wednesday [20

November], Cheney and Yi will discuss North Korea's development of nuclear arms, phased pullout of U.S. troops in Korea, and other military issues.

The defense ministers will sign a Wartime Host Nation Support (WHNS) Agreement that calls for South Korea to provide material and other logistic support for U.S. troops in case of war on the Korean peninsula.

"We hope that South Korea and the United States will reap results through deep consultation on North Korea's nuclear arms development and other issues," Yi said in his welcoming statement.

"We will make every effort to maintain stability on the Korean peninsula," Cheney said in an arrival statement at Seoul airport.

He is scheduled to visit a frontline American unit and attend a dinner hosted by Yi before leaving for Tokyo on Friday [22 November].

Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Adm. Charles Larson, commander of the U.S. Pacific Command, flew into Seoul earlier Tuesday.

Some 39,000 U.S. troops are stationed in South Korea under a 1953 mutual defense treaty. Last year, Seoul and Washington agreed that about 7,000 troops, mostly Air Force and Army personnel, would be withdrawn through to the end of 1992 when troop strength would level off at 36,000.

Defense Minister Meets With U.S. General Powell

SK2011051491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0500 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 20 (YONHAP)—Defense Minister Yi Chong- ku exchanged views with Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, on bilateral security cooperation during the latter's courtesy call Wednesday.

Powell is in Seoul to attend the 23rd Korea-U.S. Security Consultative Meeting, which opened here Wednesday.

Yi conferred the Korean order of Kukson medal on Carl Ford, acting assistant secretary of defense, when Ford made a courtesy call on him.

ROK-U.S. Security Consultative Meeting Opens

North Nuclear Capability Discussed

SK2011043691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0316 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 20 (YONHAP)—Military leaders of South Korea and the United States agreed Wednesday that North Korea should be stopped from acquiring nuclear weapons under any circumstances but not on how to accomplish this task.

They urged North Korea to sign a nuclear safguards accord with the International Atomic Energy Agency at an early date and allow international inspection of its nuclear facilities, a Defense Ministry spokesman said in a statement.

It was agreed the two countries should take joint steps through close consultation against any move by North Korea to continue to develop nuclear weapons secretly after it signs an accord.

Gen. Chong Ho-kun and Gen. Colin Powell, the chairmen of the Korean and U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, respectively, chaired the closed-door military committee meeting (MCM) at the Defense Ministry.

The MCM is part of the Korean-U.S. security consultation process. The main session of the Security Consultative Meeting (SCM) Thursday will be participated in by the defense ministers of the two countries.

The two sides shared the view that North Korea's nuclear arms development program poses a serious threat not only to the Korean people but to the security of the Asian-Pacific region, the spokesman said.

They also expressed concern over North Korea's buildup of offensive power, possession of chemical weapons and deployment of scud missiles and agreed to jointly counter it.

They reconfirmed that the role of the U.S. forces in Korea should be changed from a leading role to a supportive one and agreed to pursue the reduction of U.S. troops gradually while maintaining deterrence against North Korea.

The MCM has been held alternately in South Korea and the United States since 1978 to discuss pending military issues and boost the defense capability of the Korea-U.S. combined forces.

Also meeting were the Joint Communique Committee and the Security Cooperation Committee. The policy review, logistics cooperation and defense industry technology subpanels were to meet Wednesday afternoon.

U.S. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney was to visit a U.S. Army unit on the front line in the afternoon to boost morale. He will have talks with Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku on Thursday morning and jointly chair the SCM in the afternoon.

Security Agreements Reviewed

SK2011102991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0832 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 20 (YONHAP)—South Korean and U.S. defense officials Wednesday discussed follow-up measures to the Wartime Host Nation Support (WHNS) to be signed by the defense ministers of the two countries Thursday [21 November].

In the Logistics Cooperation Committee, part of the activities of the 23rd Security Consultative Meeting (SCM), they discussed extension of the ammunition modernization agreement, which is due to expire in 1992, to enhance the capability of the Korea-U.S. Combined Forces, and methods of disposing of obsolete munitions on the Korean peninsula, a Defense Ministry announcement said.

In the Security Cooperation Committee, the two sides discussed revision of a memorandum of understanding [MOU] on royalty payment and joint manufacture of 155mm self-propelled howitzers in Korea.

When the MOU on royalty is revised, the number of items on which Korea must pay royalties to the United States will be reduced and Korea will be able to sell defense items to more countries.

In the Policy Review Subcommittee, the two sides agreed to hold the 24th Security Consultative Meeting (SCM) in the United States next year.

Korean Assistant Defense Minister Kim Tong-chin and Carl Ford, acting assistant secretary of defense, agreed Korea will contribute 180 million U.S. dollars in 1992 for defense burden sharing.

The two sides also discussed the promotion of cooperation and joint research of defense industry technology in the Defense Industry Technology Cooperation Committee (DITCC).

They had in-depth discussions on conclusion of an agreement on quality assurance, which will simplify procedures for assuring quality when Korea sells defense products to the United States.

Korea maintains such agreements with five countries, including Canada, France and Britain, but none yet with the United States.

The agreement will mean international recognition of the quality of Korean defense products and save Korea time and cost on their export, a ministry official said.

Meanwhile, U.S. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney visited a multi- purpose range on the western front line of the U.S. 2nd Division and observed demonstration fire by Bradley fighting vehicles.

In the evening, Cheney and other U.S. delegates are to be guests of honor at a dinner hosted by Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku at the Little Angels Hall.

Foreign Minister on Japan, Security Concerns

SK2011043791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0351 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 20 (YONHAP)—Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok, reiterating concern about Japan's dispatch of its Self-Defense Forces overseas Wednesday, called on Tokyo to be prudent in doing so.

"We understand Japanese efforts to make personnel and materials contributions to the United Nations. However, we hope the Japanese Government will prudently deal with the question of sending its Self-Defense Forces, which contains the possibility of using armed force, in consideration of the concern of other Asian countries," Yi told a group of Japanese journalists at his office.

Korea experienced colonial rule of Japan earlier this century and are gravely concerned about what-they-call "new militarism" on the strength of Tokyo's growing economic power.

Japan dispatched mine sweepers to the Persian Gulf after the Gulf war and is seeking to join the U.N. Peacekeeping Operations (PKO).

Yi said his government had not yet considered joining the U.N. peacekeeping activities and that it has not been requested to take part from the world body.

"The U.N. Secretariat has recently asked us to submit materials showing the fields in which we can contribute to the PKO and the methods. We will submit the materials after inter-ministerial consultations," he said.

Touching on the on-going normalization talks between Japan and North Korea in Beijing, Yi said he highly appreciated Japan's expression of "serious concern" about Pyongyang's development of nuclear arms and raising the issue of the North's nuclear reprocessing facilities.

"We hope Japan will maintain, in the course of normalization negotiations, such conditions as North Korea's giving up of nuclear arms development and significant progress in inter-Korean dialogue and exchange," he said.

The minister said he was glad that the newly-appointed Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa had selected Korea for his first overseas trip as premier.

"The decision mirrors the importance the Japanese Government attaches to the friendly and cooperative relations with its neighbor.

Turning to the just-opened 23rd South Korea-U.S. Security Consultative Meeting, Yi said the focus would be on nuclear issues pertaining to the Korean peninsula.

Detailed follow-up measures to U.S. President George Bush's Sept. 27 announcement of nuclear arms reduction would top agenda items at the meeting, he said.

"When President Bush's announcement is put into practice, Korea will be able to declare non-existence of nuclear arms, including the air-borne tactical weapons, in the not distant future," Yi said.

He reiterated his government's call for North Korea's opening of its nuclear facilities to outside inspection and abandonment of nuclear reprocessing facilities, stressing the North had no excuse to refuse, after Bush's announcement and President No Tae-u's Nov. 8 declaration of "non-nuclear Korean peninsula."

No pledged in the declaration that his government would not manufacture, possess, store, deploy or use nuclear weapons.

South, North Hold Working-Level Contact 20 Nov

SK2011083091 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0733 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] North and South Korea today held the third round of working-level contacts between the delegations to the North-South high-level talks at Tongilgak, the North side's area of Panmunjom. At the contact, both sides discussed coordinating the document of an agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, exchanges, and cooperation between the North and the South. However, they failed to narrow their differences of opinion on the major items, such as a specific mechanism to guarantee nonaggression and the issue of determining which party will sign a peace treaty.

Until now, North Korea has indicated its position of being against discussing the nuclear issue. Because of this, our side, in today's working-level contact, indicated its position of being willing to discuss the disarmament and nuclear issue together. It has been learned, however, that the North Korean side maintained its consistent position.

North and South Korea agreed to hold the fourth round of the working-level contact on 26 November at the House of Peace, our side's area of Panmunjom. Both sides ended today their one-and-half hour contact.

Discuss Denuclearization Issue

SK2011094491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0929 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 20 (OANA-YONHAP)—South and North Korea agreed in principle to include a clause on having no nuclear, chemical and biological weapons on the Korean peninsula in an inter- Korean agreement, a ranking government source said Wednesday.

The two sides still disagreed on forming committees for cross- border exchanges, on replacing the Armistice Treaty with a peace regime and opening each other's television and radio channels, he said.

North Korean officials at the third closed-door working-level contact at the truce village of Panmunjom Wednesday said they will not oppose a South Korean proposal to include the clause in the agreement on reconciliation, non-aggression and exchange and cooperation, the source said.

They strongly opposed the proposal at the last contact Nov. 11.

The proposed clause says South and North Korea will remove all nuclear, chemical, biological and any other weapons of mass destruction from the Korean peninsula before pursuing military scaleback.

South and North Korea, divided since 1945, agreed in an inter- Korean prime ministers' meeting last month that they will adopt an agreement on reconciliation, non-aggression and exchange and cooperation and have been holding working-level contacts to settle details of the agreement.

While South Korea neither confirms nor denies presence of American nuclear weapons in the South, North Korea is believed to own biological and chemical arsenal.

The clause, South Korea proposed, should be included in the agreement.

"North Korea said it will not oppose to this clause on condition that the U.S. withdrawal of its nuclear weapons from South Korea is proven as a true fact," the source said.

The two sides, however, still differed on other major points of differences, according to the source.

Seoul says the two sides should form a committee on cross-border travel, trade and communication while the North insists a subcommittee is enough.

Seoul insists on specifying the terms of reunions of separated families such as exchange of letters and visits in the agreement and arranging the reunions immediately after adopting the inter-Korean accord.

Next working-level contact is set for Nov. 26 at Panmunjom.

North Not Opposed to Six-Nation Korea Conference

SK2011015491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0130 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Washington, Nov. 19 (YONHAP)—North Korea would not oppose a six-nation conference on Korea, if it could contribute to peace and unification of the country, a North Korean official said Tuesday.

Choe U-chin, deputy director of North Korea's peace and disarmament research institute, said "there is no reason for North Korea to oppose such a conference if it could guarantee peace and unification in the Korean peninsula."

Choe was commenting on a proposal by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker to hold a conference on the so-called two-plus-four formula among the United States, the Soviet Union, China and Japan in addition to South and North Korea.

President No Tae-u has already expressed South Korea's opposition to convening such a conference because, he said, it could contribute little to help solve the Korean question which is essentially different from that of Germany.

The North Korean official spoke at a press conference in the U.S. capital where he was attending a seminar at George Washington University.

Although some people say the six-nation conference was proposed to put pressure on North Korea, Choe said he doesn't want to make a judgement on such a suggestion at the moment.

"We could decide on the proposal through bilateral or multilateral discussions, if the six-nation conference could contribute to unification of Korea," he said.

As for Pyongyang's nuclear development program, Choe reiterated the North Korean position that his country will allow international inspection of its nuclear facilities after the United States withdraws nuclear weapons from South Korea.

"We have neither desire nor ability to develop and manufacture nuclear weapons," Choe said. Therefore, he added, the Korean peninsula will become a nuclear free area when the United States withdraws its nuclear arms.

He acknowledged, however, the possibility of denuclearizing the Korean peninsula was improved by U.S. President George Bush's announced plans to withdraw tactical nuclear weapons and the South Korean leader's recent declaration.

But, he said, North Korea as an independent nation could not submit to any international pressure to accept outside inspection of its nuclear facilities.

Consular Agreement With USSR Initialed

SK2011045491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0422 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 20 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the Soviet Union initialed a consular agreement here Wednesday, providing the legal basis for establishing consulates in 1992, the Foreign Ministry said.

The first Korean consulates are likely to be in Alma-Ata and Vladivostok, according to the ministry.

The pact comprises 54 articles and covers such things as establishment of consulates, a consul's duties, privileges and protection of nationals.

If the agreement takes force in compliance with domestic laws, it will be the second such agreement following one signed with the United States in 1963.

In addition, it was agreed to sign a memorandum of understanding on simplifying and shortening the visa issuing process.

ROK, USSR Agree To Correct Textbooks

SK1911075291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0728 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 19 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the Soviet Union have signed a draft agreement on correcting distortions of their history in each other's textbooks, the Education Ministry said Tuesday.

Education Minister Yun Hyong-sop and Gennadiy Yagodin, chairman of the State Committee for Public Education of the Soviet Union, signed the draft agreement here Tuesday.

They will form a joint research group to correct each other's textbooks in 1992 or 1993.

The group, to comprise educational specialists and government officials, will review textbook contents and make changes to be reflected in future textbooks.

Working-level consultations will begin soon to enable the first meeting of the joint research group within six months.

The Education Ministry found textbooks used in middle and high schools that describe the South Korean Government as a puppet government and the North Korean Government as legitimate, and blame the Korean War on a U.S.-sponsored attack by the South on the North.

It was agreed to form an exchange cooperation promotion committe with three experts from each government meeting alternately in Seoul and Moscow annually, starting in Seoul in 1992.

The two sides agreed to exchange education missions for 10 days next year to increase bilateral understanding in the education field and to each give a scholarship to one student recommended by both governments.

Soviet Educator Urges Academic Exchanges

SK1911120991 Seoul YONHAP in English 1131 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 19 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea and the Soviet Union should start with language student exchanges in opening bilateral academic ties, a senior Soviet education official said Tuesday.

Gennadiy Yagodin, chairman of the State Committee for Public Education of the Soviet Union, said textbook distortions of history is "immoral" and "a political defeat" and stressed that any misinformation, be it on Korean or Soviet history, must be corrected.

Yagodin signed a draft agreement with South Korean Education Minister Yun Hyong-sop earlier in the day on correcting misrecorded facts about each other in their textbooks.

He said he hopes for active academic exchanges between South Korea and the Soviet Union with the agreement.

Yagodin arrived in Seoul Nov. 13 and toured universities and industrial sites. He will leave Wednesday [20 November].

"It would be good to open student exchanges, especially in the language sector, for example having a South Korean student coming to the Soviet Union for one semester or a Soviet student studying in South Korea for a semester," he said at a press conference after signing the agreement.

The Koreans in the Soviet Union learn in Korean during elementary school and switch to Russian from junior high school, Yagodin said.

The Soviet Government will gradually develop a system where Koreans can study in Korean even in college, he said.

ROK, New Zealand Ministers Discuss Rice Market

SK1211100091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0836 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 12 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean Trade and Industry Minister Yi Pong-so and New Zealand Deputy Prime Minister Donald McKinnon discussed rice Tuesday afternoon but were unable to reach a common viewpoint on rice market opening.

Yi maintained that the Korean rice market could not be opened because it would endanger the lives of Korean farmers.

McKinnon said that if rice were recognized as an exception to free trade, other countries would ask for their internationally uncompetitive products to be likewise classified as non-trade concerns.

The most serious stumbling block to conclusion of the Uruguay Round talks was export subsidies to farmers in Europe, not rice, Yi said.

McKinnon asked whether Korea would leave the Uruguay Round talks if the rice problem was not solved, but Yi would only say that it was not time to comment as the talks had not ended.

Yi said "yes" when asked if Korea would continue to request an exception for rice.

"Both sides just reconfirmed the discrepancies of their views on trade liberalization. It is doubtful that farm produce exporting countries are in collusion to force Korea to open its rice market," a Korean official at the meeting said.

Foreign Minister Meets Philippines Counterpart

SK1511064991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0629 GMT 15 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 15 (OANA-YONHAP)—The Philippines regards North Korea's nuclear program as an international concern and will keep it in mind in pursuing diplomatic normalization, Foreign Minister Raul Manglapus assured South Korea on Friday.

He told Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok that Manila would closely consult Seoul in improving relations with the North, South Korean spokesman Kim Sok-u, director-general of the Foreign Ministry's Asian affairs bureau, said after the meeting.

Manglapus stayed after the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) ministerial meeting for a three-day visit.

Yi explained to him President No Tae-u's declaration of a nuclear-free Korea and asked for the Philippines to join in international efforts to deter North Korea from developing a nuclear weapon, Kim said.

Manglapus requested that Seoul temporarily stop allowing Filipinos to stay 15 days without a visa to stem the inflow of illegal aliens, and asked for Korean support in expanding Philippine exports of agricultural products, Kim said.

North, South Defense Spending Patterns Viewed

SK2011032591 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES (Supplemental) in English 20 Nov 91 pp 1,2

[By staff reporter Yi Nak-ho]

[Text] The 1st International Defense Fair Seoul '91, opens at the modern towering Korea Exhibition Center (KOEX) in the ever-thriving southern district of Seoul this morning with Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku and other celebrities, local and foreign, cutting the tapes in a festive atmosphere.

The Defense Seoul '91, Minister Yi observed in his opening address, will present South Korea with a good opportunity to speed up development of the defense industry for its national security.

The international event, in which 107 defense contractors from nine countries including Korea are participating, will continue for five days through Sunday.

Taking part in the international show are the United States, Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Turkey and host country Korea.

In cooperation with the Korea Defense Industry Association (KDIA), Korea Techno-venture and the KOEX, the Defense Ministry organized the international exhibition, the largest ever of its kind here, designed, among other things, to push ahead with its indigenous arms industries and expand shipments of domestically- produced weapons and equipment to the foreign markets.

The primary goal of Korean national defense is to safeguard the country against armed aggression by its adversaries, facilitate peaceful reunification of the divided peninsula, and contribute to the regional stability and peace.

Despite the collapse of communism in the East European countries, North Korea has not yet shown any sign of fundamental change in its scheme and strategy to communize the South by force.

For the last 40 years, the North has persistently sought to foment a revolution in the South by employing a combination of indirect strategies like propaganda and ideological infiltration and direct armed provocations utilizing its military superiority.

To cap all of its uninterrupted military buildup through massive arms development, North Korea has started to develop nuclear weapons in secret.

Military experts conjecture that North Korea is engaged in development of nuclear arms in a bid to exploit the mass-destructive weapons as the last card against the South in time of need.

The biggest reason to prepare for war is to prevent war and safeguard peace.

The Korean peninsula where a tragic and bloody war occurred early in the 1950s is the most heavily militarized spot in the world.

Should hostilities break out again on the peninsula, they would probably cause 2.4 million casualties within the first week and five million casualties within a month, according to the analysis of military strategists.

Ninety percent of the industrial facilities on both sides will be reduced to the ground.

The strategists here observed: "There would be no victor, both sides would suffer equally. Another round of total war on the peninsula would devastate the wealth and potential of the Korean nation, and render it hopeless for a very long time to come."

Self-reliance in the defense industries is a "must" for South Korea in its national defense and security, confronted with the Stalinist communists in the North.

The present imbalance of the military strength between the Koreas, unfavorable to the South, stems principally from the fact that the South did not launch its force improvement program until 1974, 12 years later than the North.

The North Korean force reinforcement program commenced as early as 1962 with the adoption of its "Four-point Military Guidelines."

Since then, the North has spent 20 to 24 percent of its gross national products (GNP) on defense, while the South's military spending was limited to 5 percent of its GNP.

Furthermore, North Korea could funnel 48 percent of its military budget into force buildup, whereas the South was able to expend only 20 to 40 percent of its defense budget for this purpose.

In the further, South Korea's GNP is expected to grow to far more than 10 times that of the North.

Assuming that the North will continue spending 20 to 24 percent of its GNP on defense with 48 percent of it going to force buildup, and that the South will maintain its defense spending at 5 percent of its GNP with 38 percent invested in force construction, South Korea will outstrip the North in terms of cumulative investment in force buildup beginning in the mid-1990s.

If these assumptions hold up, therefore, the military imbalance between the Koreas will be rectified soon.

In view of the differences in decision-making and weapon- acquisition processes between socialist and capitalist countries, however, it is not likely to be until the early 2000s that an overall military balance will be achieved on the Korean peninsula.

Since the 1960s, South Korea has given top priority to economic development rather than to military buildup.

In contrast, North Korea's top policy priority has always been building military strength in preparation for another war against the South.

In 1988, South Korea's defense spending fell below 5 percent of its GNP.

This level of defense spending relative to GNP is not much more than half that of other countries under military confrontation.

South Korea's defense budget in 1989 was equivalent to 4.99 percent of the GNP and 32.4 percent of the government budget.

The FY 1990 defense budget stood at 6,887.3 billion won (approximately 9 billion U.S. dollars).

When excluding the costs of conscription administration and maintenance of combat and maritime police amounting to 249.5 billion won, the defense budget accounted for 4.35 percent of the GNP and 29.3 percent of the government budget.

According to North Korea's official announcements, the proportion of its defense spending in the government budget has continued to fall from 14 percent in 1986 to 13.2 percent in 1987 12.2 percent in 1988 and 12 percent in 1989.

When the size of the North Korean armed forces and the recent purchase of such advanced weapons as Scud missiles and sophisticated MIG-29 jet fighters are taken into consideration, however, these figures are not reliable at all.

As much of it is concealed under the heading of "people's economic expenditures" and socio-cultural expenditures, the real defense budget of North Korea is believed to amount to 30 percent of the government budget.

Figured in U.S. dollars, North Korea's defense budget of FY1990 reached 5.28 billion dollars, whereas that of the South ran at 8.98 billion dollars, a ratio of 1 to 1.7.

In sum, South Korea began outstripping the North in terms of annual defense spending in 1976.

Its cumulative defense investment, however, amounts to only 71 percent of North Korea's.

It is anticipated that this disparity will not be resolved until the mid-1990s.

North Korea is at an advantage over the South in terms of conditions for military buildup.

North Korea saves much from uncompensated land expropriation and forced labor mobilization.

In addition, it benefits from cheap electricity and other utility costs, and its salary and food expenses for soldiers amount to only half of those borne by the South.

North Korea is also able to purchase military hardware more cheaply than the South because the overall weapons and part prices in the communist world are relatively lower than those in the free world.

In contrast, South Korea has to acquire military equipment at much higher prices not only from foreign suppliers but also from local defense industries in order to guarantee them a decent profit.

The military budget is used to defend our nation from enemy threat and to preserve peace.

In other words, it is the price and cost for the peace that we have enjoyed so far, which we are determined to keep.

Considered strictly from an economic point of view, there is the possibility of criticism that military spending is less productive than investment in other sectors.

When we imagine the destruction and loss that another war would bring about, however, military spending must be regarded as fundamental price for the survival of the nation.

If a stable military budget cannot be secured, a setback in implementing military buildup projects will result, recreating problems in deterring North Korean provocations.

With continued economic growth, the living standard of the general public in Korea has improved remarkably as the gap in the living standards between soldiers and civilians. [paragraph as published]

Additionally, it is only with strong support for production activities and advancement of technology that the domestic defense industries will be capable of establishing the foundation to manufacture sophisticated weapons systems.

In order to implement the fiscal policies of the government, economize our force improvement and fully meet our initial defense goals, the Defense Ministry has set the following guidelines for the arrangement of its budget:

(1) Execution of the budget in accordance with its purpose, prohibition of discretionary use of surpluses, voluntary return of these surpluses and simplification of ceremonial events.

(2) Early ordering of government projects, and, in case of long- term contracts, utilization of the state liabilities system. Strict management of projects of the total amount carried over.

(3) Minimization of private contracts while expanding open bid contracts and, in order to reduce costs, a thorough review of manufacturing costs at the time of contract.

To establish an efficient logistics support system, the Defense Ministry is trying to improve the procurement system by enhancing standardization and normalization.

In producing materials from defense industries, items to be purchased through open tenders will be extended to include those that will satisfy not only military needs but also the needs of domestic industry, and which will encourage technological development.

In an effort to make the most of the defense budget, the ministry strives to induce cost reduction and quality improvement by encouraging specialization and systematization in the defense industry.

The local purchase of military supplies is a method of procurement in which payments are made in local currency "won" for those military goods supplied by domestic industries from the defense budget.

In 1989, the Defense Ministry's budget for purchasing military supplies amounted to 3,554.6 billion won (roughly 5 billion U.S. dollars), out of which 2,430.8 billion won was used for local purchases through the Defense Procurement Agency (DPA).

Considering that the budget for local purchases accounts for a considerable portion of the total defense budget, the ministry will continue its efforts to improve the defense procurement management system in order to optimize the defense budget and improve the quality of military supplies.

Currently, in military procurement through local purchases the rate of contracts ad libitum represents a substantial portion due to certain difficulties inherent in the military.

For instance, there are certain industries that the government needs to support in order to meet defense goals.

Nevertheless, the ministry will gradually increase the proportion of open bidding with the goal of improving the quality of local supplies and strengthening the competitiveness of defense-related industries.

Foreign purchases, which are the procurement of military supplies from foreign sources, are made in two ways.

One is through the U.S. Foreign Military Sales (FMS) and the other is commercial purchase.

For each purchase, the ministry thoroughly reviews all the information collected from various sources and selects one of those two methods that best serves the national interest.

In 1989, 794.3 billion won (about 1 billion dollars) was spent on foreign purchases; 310.7 billion won or 39 percent on FMS purchases, and 483.6 billion won or 61 percent on commercial purchases.

In the case of foreign purchases, the ministry will continue to supplement and further develop offset programs for military supplies so that foreign purchases can be made in an economical and efficient way, and still contribute to the development of domestic industries.

The Defense Ministry is marking efforts to standardize and specify military supplies, considering the development of domestic industries and the trend of technology advancement.

Standardization and specifications are implemented according to an annual plan to meet the requirements of the military.

The defense procurement management will thus be efficiently carried out, contributing to more economical and efficient procurement of military supplies.

Defense Specifications refer to documents that spell out the technical and engineering criteria applied to the purchasing and manufacturing processes.

'Capitalistic' Peasants' Markets in North Viewed

SK1711065091 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 11 Nov 91 p 9

[Article by North Korean affairs reporter: "News From North Korea"]

[Text] As has been well known to all, major daily necessities, including foodstuffs, are being supplied through a distribution system in North Korea. The major portion of goods is supplied through state-run wholesale stores and retail stores.

However, peasants' markets, such as a countryside marketplace in capitalist societies, have begun to expand since 1984. As a result, goods, except for a few items including food, wine, and cigarettes, are sold and bought there freely.

Based on testimonies of defectors from the North and on materials from government authorities, we will now review the actual situation of peasants' markets in North Korea as well as the structure of state-run stores for circulating goods.

Peasants' Markets

The peasants' markets, which are called free markets in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in East Europe and market grounds [*changmadang*] in North Korea, recently turned into a regular, permanent marketplace. Management posts are installed within the market to collect the rent. Restaurants and refreshment corners are operated, and other accommodations are also available in the market places.

Thus, we may note that North Korea is, even partially, introducing a market economy system based on the peasants' market.

The major items sold and bought in the peasants' markets are surplus products of cooperative farms, various vegetables produced in private gardens, livestock products raised as a household's side work, and other miscellaneous cereals.

The original purpose in establishing these markets was to promote the living standard of cooperative farm members and to inspire their will for labor, to urgently and temporarily furnish daily necessities that the state-run stores failed to supply on timely basis, and to help bartering.

However, provisions, foodstuffs, old and used furniture, used clothes, foreign-made fabrics, and even valuables have recently circulated actively through these markets. This reminds one of a small-scale marketplace in capitalist societies.

The market grounds have some negative aspects, including fostering irregularities among some residents and causing deviations among the North Korean youth. However, they serve as a source for increasing the practical income of the lowest-level workers and peasants who live in the outskirts of cities. Thus, the market grounds are known as popular places for the North Korean residents.

In the case of Chongjin City, a market ground is established in each district. The market ground established in 1984 in Panjuk- tong, Chongam district in Chongjin, is the largest.

Some parts of the facilities in the market ground in Panjuk-tong are covered with roofs and sales stands are provided in the temporary building.

It was learned that the salespersons are mostly old men who have retired under the age limit and whose labor ability is low, and that approximately 40 men work the sales stands.

Although the regular open day (market day) is once every 10 days, the door is always open to the public even on ordinary days.

The goods dealt there are mainly foodstuffs. There are no such luxurious items as televisions and refrigerators.

From the outset, foodstuffs, fabrics, clothes, wine, and cigarettes were designated as prohibited items. However, because the residents' demand for these items is very high, black-market dealings are active.

Needless to say, if such prohibited items were uncovered by public security officials, the items all would be confiscated.

In addition to residents' foodstuffs in the market gounds, bread, flat cakes, and fried cakes, which are made on the spot, are sold there.

On occasion, furniture and clothes that were put on sale by homes that need money can be seen in the market grounds, and also various clothes that Chinese or Koreans living in China brought on visits to North Korea can be seen occasionally.

Also found in the market ground are various industrial products brought by wood cutters after having worked in Siberia, personal belongings of those who were repatriated to the North, goods brought in by relatives living in Japan of those who were repatriated to the North, and privately-made goods acquired privately or personally.

North Korea has dispatched approximately 30,000 wood cutters to Siberia at the present. They receive wages in Soviet rubles. Part of the money is sent home, but the rest is spent in buying Soviet-made industrial products that are later brought to North Korea.

Normally, the price of dealing in the market ground is about 10 times more than government prices and 20 times more when dealing in foodstuffs.

The price of black-marketeering in the market ground of important products are: One kilogram of rice is 20-25 won; one kilogram of corn is five-nine won; bread (six sugar-free small loaves) is two won; two twisted donuts are one won; one flat cake is two won; one piece of bean curd is three-won; one approximately 540 cc bottle of soju is 15 won; one packet of cigarette is two won; and corn noodles per 100 grams are 150 won.

Currently North Korea is using coins and paper money. For coins, there is one-chon coin, a five-chon coin, and a 10-chon coin; for paper money, there is a one-won bill, a 10-won bills, a 50-won bill, and a 100-won bill.

The use of currency in North Korea is much different from that circulated in capitalist societies.

In North Korea, the currency does not reflect the true value of goods and is only used as a simple slip of exchange, because the state voluntarily decides on the price of the goods.

However, many kinds of bartering are carried out in the market ground, but most of the sales are carried out with money.

State-Run Stores

North Korea divides daily necessities into goods that can be distributed and goods that can be sold freely. Goods can be purchased only through designated state-run stores with a purchasing card.

The circulation of the goods is basically carried out through state-run stores, such as wholesale stores and retail stores, and through industrial networks, such as cooperative organizations.

The wholesale stores, which play a pivotal role in supplying daily necessities, receive goods from the producers and carry out the work to supply these goods to the retail stores in a planned way.

To carry this out, the wholesale stores regard the realization of the ordering system as their basic guideline. These stores possess and manage many warehouses to store the ordered goods.

The wholesale stores also must have a correct understanding of the supply-demand relations between the retail stores and the people and must play the role of sending the goods after calculating how much is necessary to the manufacturing organizations and enterprises.

There is a central wholesale store in the center, a provincial wholesale store in each provinces, and a district wholesale store in the cities and counties.

In addition, according to the importance of the goods, there are wholesale stores that sell only clothes, shoes, cookies, meat, and agricultural products.

The wholesale price is decided according to the average cost of the product, and the regular amount of money necessary for managing and operating the enterprise is added as profit.

This kind of work is managed by the Price Establishing Committee of the State Administration Council. To guarantee and improve the quality of the goods, this committee differentiates the price of the goods in accordance with the kind of goods, date of registration, and quality.

After the price has been chosen, these goods are sent to retail stores in the ri and tong units of each region. The retail stores sell the goods after confirming how much is left for the citizens to buy in their purchasing cards.

Television sets, refrigerators, and watches, which are regarded as luxury goods, are not sold in the stores according to the purchasing card but can be purchased only by the people who have been allotted a share to buy the goods from their work place.

Due to the inefficiency in circulation and the absolute lack of goods, many times the absolute amount of daily necessities that are recorded in the purchasing card are not supplied to ordinary workers.

The kinds of retail stores include department stores in Pyongyang, general stores in local cities, direct retail stores, and retail stores in each ri and tong. These retail stores supply the citizens with daily necessities through the form of mobile sales, delivery sales, night sales, and order sales.

It was reported that as of 1985, approximately 200 retail stores are located throughout the nation.

In the case of Chongjin City, the state-run stores are divided into stores that sell vegetables, industrial products, fisheries products, and foodstuff.

Items that can be bought freely without using one's purchasing card in the retail stores are limited only to inexpensive and small goods, including toilet paper, safety pins, and fingernail clippers. Even though one has a purchasing card, it is impossible to buy goods at a place other than one's designated store.

North To Borrow $807 Million for Joint Ventures

SK1811051191 Seoul THE KOREA ECONOMIC WEEKLY in English 11 Nov 91 p 3

[Text] North Korea plans to borrow $807 million from foreign countries for 83 joint venture development projects in 11 sectors.

According to industry sources, the $887 million to be borrowed accounts for 57 percent of the total of $1.561 billion needed to carry out the 83 projects.

It is believed that the United Nations Industrial Development Organization helped North Korea designate the development sectors.

The electric and electronics field requires $165.1 million of foreign capital in 25 cases, which will cost a total of $334.2 million. Textile projects require a total of $702.9 million for seven projects, which need $217.2 million of foreign capital.

The sources said that most of the development will be carried out in Unggi, Chongjin and Najin near Tumen River, which was designated as a special economic development area.

North Korea's 83 Joint Venture Development Projects (unit: $100,000)

	Number of projects	Investment amount	
		Total	Foreign capital
Mining	5	671	463
Confectionery	4	329	171
Clothing	7	2,939	2,172
Wood Processing	1	30	25
Chemical	11	2,766	1,399
Glass	7	556	304
Metal	12	1,562	974
Metal Parts	1	8	3
Machinery	8	1,921	952
Electric/Electronics	25	3,342	1,651
Shipbuilding	2	1,489	756
Total	83	15,613	8,870

No Meets 'Progressive' Opposition Party Members

SK1811062391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0302 GMT 18 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 18 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u held talks Monday with Chairman Yi U-chae and two other leaders of the opposition Minjung (People's) Party on the current political situation.

No's meeting at Chongwadae with Yi and Yi Chae-o, secretary general, and Chang Ki-pyo, chief policy maker, drew public attention as no president has ever held an official meeting with the leaders of a "progressive" party in the country's history.

The meeting, held at the request of the Minjung Party, was interpreted by many observers as an indication for the ruling Democratic Liberal Party to accept dissident elements through Minjung Party as part of the nation's political establishment.

Officials said No and Minjung Party leaders discussed problems on a fair distribution of political funds, elections and release of political detainees.

No told the visitors that a harmonious relationship between the conservative and progressive forces is needed for the development of democracy and capitalism in this country.

The president then urged the Minjung leaders to establish their party line in accordance with the people's wishes and political current of today, officials said.

No also stressed the need for the Minjung Party's help in the nation's efforts to persuade North Korea to abandon its nuclear arms development program, the officials said.

No further told the visitors that dialogue and compromise, rather than confrontation, between the ruling and opposition parties are essential for a new political order and the unity of the people, the officials said.

The Minjung leaders, for their part, asked the president for his support for Minjung's bid to be represented in the National Assembly, public management of elections, release of political detainees and restoration of civil rights for Minjung members, the officials said.

Meeting Called 'Positive' for Democratization

SK1911020291 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 19 Nov 91 p 6

[Editorial: "No's Meeting With Progressives"]

[Text] President No Tae-u's meeting with leaders of the progressive People's Party (Minjung-dang) at Chongwadae yesterday was a positive expression of the government camp's intention to recognize the dissidents' group as a political force.

The President's first formal talks with the progressive leaders well mirrors the outstanding progress of the political situation which has been brought about since the inauguration of No's Sixth Republic government. The Chief Executive's acceptance of the progressive party leaders at his office in response to their call may well be an extension of No's democratization effort at home and also his northern policy toward former Communist or socialist countries.

To recall, in most cases progressive parties in the country have thus far been looked coldly upon as "ideologically disturbing," only being regarded as leftist forces. Under these circumstances, the progressive parties have had a hard time surviving political suppression, finding it difficult to garner popular support and being doomed to short lives terminated by the nation's political vicissitudes. Very few of the progressives have been elected to the legislature, the constitutionally-established political arena.

All told, until very recently neither the ruling, conservative camp nor progressive forces have even accommodated each other, instead persistently maintaining mutually antagonistic positions as uncompromising adversaries.

In this context, it is significant that the incumbent President, who concurrently heads the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, and leaders of the progressive party representing dissident forces held the unusual talks as major elections are approaching. It is likely that the meeting will help both sides with their actual interests in the next Assembly elections and three following elections, scheduled for next year.

That is, by accepting the visit of the dissident leaders the President has signaled his positive intention to accommodate the progressive party into the institutional political arena as a legitimate political force. Thus the government camp is displaying a forward-looking and broad-minded posture to accommodate nonconservative and progressive forces, attesting to its resolve to put an end to the authoritarian politics that has not tolerated political dissidents, especially progressive radicals.

In another sense as the major opposition Democratic Party suspects, the ruling party may be attempting to split the opposition forces. On the other hand, the progressive party could capitalize on this event as an encouraging opportunity to grow, leaving behind its long ordeal of being discredited by the ruling camp and the people at large.

In this regard, the progressive leaders who met with No reportedly suggested drastic legal systems to help get progressive politicians elected to the National Assembly. To this end, they asked that the Assembly seats provided by the proportional representation system be alloted not by the ratio of seats earned in the district constituencies but by the ratio of total ballots each party obtains.

Other reasonable demands the progressive party presented to the President may well be considered in the course of the ongoing bipartisan negotiations over the overall change of laws related to elections and the distribution of political funds.

* Chang Se-tong Discusses New Political Party

912C0304A Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 19 Aug 91 p 3

[Article by reporters Yi Yu-sik and Chong Chin-sok based on an interview between Chang Se-tong and Yi Song-chun: "Chang Se-tong, Former Director of the Agency for National Security Planning, Allowed an Interview With Yi Song-chun, Head of the Politics Department of the HANGUK ILBO, for the First Time in the Four Years Since His Retirement"]

[Text] Chang Se-tong, former director of the Agency for National Security Planning who was one of the core members of the Fifth Republic and one of former President Chon Tu-hwan's closest associates, disclosed his views on the issues concerning the Fifth and Sixth Republics and the rumor of organizing a new political party, during an interview with Yi Song-chun, head of the politics department of HANGUK ILBO, at his home on 17 August.

This is his first formal interview with a journalist since his retirement in June 1987 as director of the Agency for National Security Planning. During the three-and-a-half-hour interview, Chang expressed his views—in reasonable detail and in an organized manner—on the pending issues between Chongwadae [President No Tae-u's official residence] and Yonhidong [President Chon's residence], his future plans, and some past events.

Recently, there has been a marked movement to arrange a meeting between No and Chon, as part of reconciliation efforts between the Fifth and Sixth Republics. What is the background of this movement and what is former President Chon's position regarding it?

"First of all, I would like to point out that the Sixth Republic was born based on the Fifth Republic. Although there is nothing wrong in clarifying what went wrong with the Fifth Republic, I think the Sixth Republic is making a mistake in considering the Fifth Republic as an object of cleanup.

"The background of reconciliation or cooperation should be understood in that kind of perspective."

It is known in political circles that Chon requested an apology from No for the Sixth Republic's policy of cutting its relationship with the Fifth Republic as a condition for the No-Chon meeting.

"It may be a rumor, but I do not think it is a fundamental problem. The important point is that there must have been some promise and historical pledge that nobody can interfere with when Chon transferred power to No.

"If a reconciliation is necessary, the first thing to do is to remove obstacles to the reconciliation. It is meaningless to discuss the reconciliation itself. Although it is not my responsibility to discuss it, I believe that the two presidents are quite aware of what should be recorded in history or in their autobiographies. I firmly believe that when the love of the former president and the enthusiasm of the current president for our nation coexist, the national power will be even stronger."

Considering the negative feeling of the people toward the Fifth Republic, do you believe it could have been possible for the Sixth Republic to initially function normally with the National Assembly dominated by the opposition parties without attempting to cut the relationship with the Fifth Republic?

"The issues related to the Fifth Republic should be interpreted as a manifestation of the ordeals and conflicts accumulated since the first Republic, not as a problem developed during the Fifth Republic. I think that leaders in any era should have the attitude that they are responsible for all of the previous conflicts in view of the fact that they are maintaining and continuing history."

In your opinion what are the specific obstacles to the No-Chon meeting? Who do you think should offer his hand first?

"Since the two need not stand on ceremony, even the words 'No-Chon meeting' are not suitable.

"Furthermore, it is not something that outsiders should interfere with. The two can meet anytime, anywhere. The condition for meeting is also ripening. Although it is difficult to say who should take the initiative, an answer can be drawn if we consider the fact that Chon suffered from hard times by being isolated from the Sixth Republic and No is the incumbent president who is responsible for the current historical task."

When do you think the No-Chon meeting will materialize? To what extent has the exchange of opinion been made between the two camps?

"Although it is possible anytime through the efforts of the two, the restoration of human relationship between the two should come first. There have been meetings between the close associates of the two presidents. I believe, however, that all the issues should be disscussed face to face between the two."

Recently, there has been a rumor that a new political party is being organized by the power base of the Fifth Republic. There is growing interest in your role and future plans in relation to the movement of establishing a new political party.

"It is natural that there are numerous rumors in political seasons. I have never given any significance to the rumor of a new political party, nor have I disclosed my position on this.

"Since our political history is dotted with continued coup d'etat and conflicts, I tend to indulge in the current situation, rather than in predicting the long-term prospects. But I believe that now is the time to think about a bigger frame, rather than being concerned about how the power structure within the ruling party, or how the election system will change."

In that respect, do you have any new plans?

"The most important task given to us today is that we have to establish our position in the world by overcoming the inconsistencies that our government has as a 'society dominated by politics.' Furthermore, we have to close accounts on the 50 years that have transpired since liberation from Japanese rule, and prepare a foundation from which to jump into the year 2000.

"In order to achieve these goals, we need a 'creative political party' that can be responsible for the year 2000 based on persistent liveliness and progressive thinking that is aimed at abundance, righteousness, and reunification.

"I believe the necessity is quite natural and is the result of historical desire and request."

Could you elaborate the political lines of the "creative party"?

"The political lines of the 'creative party' are not limited and not to be restricted by the established frame and thinking. A black and white ideology, such as conservatives versus progressives, and extreme rights versus extreme lefts, is no longer desirable. A new world order is underway and the national reunification is anticipated. Thus, our political philosophy and ideology should be reformulated. The people are exhausted; and they have given up on the established political environment and are even sarcastic about it. Under such circumstances, the emergence of a creative political party is not an expectation but a natural outcome. Therefore, I am sure that it will be an occasion to meet the historic demand."

If that is the case, what is the major thrust of the new party, what is the boundary of participation, and what is the timing of the founding of the new party?

"The new party would encompass a wide spectrum of members, including former and current politicians and those having different ideologies.

"What is important is changing the traditional concept and thinking, and how ideological lines and philosophy are converging in what form. Therefore, the timing of the establishment is not an important problem."

Can I interpret that you did not rule out the possibility of your being a member of the new party?

"Although I have been placing significance on the creation of a new party and been expressing my views, I have not given any thought to what I will do specifically in relation to the new party.

"Since a nation or a political party is not a private possesion, it is only meaningful when it is shared by collective members, not by an individual. In that respect, I would not rule out my participation."

Will the "creative party" be conceived and promoted under the assumption that it will compete with other political parties in the forthcoming 14th general election next year?

"It should be like that."

Regarding the background, procedure, and characteristics of the 29 June declaration, some behind-the-scenes stories are emerging from those who were sharing power with the core of the ruling party.

"That should be understood in view of the fact that the most important task that former President Chon was obsessed with was to set a precedent of a peaceful power transfer and a one-term presidency, which have never materialized since the founding of this nation. In the course of accomplishing his goals, various measures and declarations were made and many positive as well as negative circumstances were created. All of these, however, should be understood as events created in the course of proceeding toward the goal."

The measure announced on 13 April to protect the constitution is either interpreted as one to dramatize the 29 June declaration, or the result of misjudgment of the political situation. What is your opinion on this?

"The core issue was to avoid under any circumstances any slippage of power transfer caused by political fighting. As many of you know, during the negotiation between the ruling and the opposition parties to discuss the constitutional revision in 1986, the ruling party reviewed not only the parliamentary-type cabinet system but also a direct election of the president. Since the political turmoil continued, the time had come to make some decision to carry out a single-term presidency and to overcome the political turmoil. The measure of 13 April and the 29 June declaration, should be interpreted in this perspective."

Did you know about the 29 June declaration in advance?

"Of course, I knew in advance. Anyway, although many discussions were held within the ruling circles at that time, the important fact is that the direct election system was adopted and the Sixth Republic was born."

At one time, you drew national attention by saying that "If I open my mouth, all will be hurt."

"It was a misunderstanding. What I meant was that it is a burden on me if I am asked about many things that I learned while I was the chief of the presidential secret service and the director of Agency for National Security PLanning."

As you must have felt during the hearing at the National Assembly and during the government prosecutors' investigation on the wrongdoings of the Fifth Republic, do you not think that there was a strong feeling among the people that the wrongdoings of the Fifth Republic were historic remnants that had to be cleaned up?

"As I mentioned previously, the issues related to the Fifth Republic should be understood from the perspective that the wrongdoings were confrontations and ordeals accumulated since the founding of the nation and exploded during the Fifth Republic. The problem is how to digest various positive and negative elements. The good and bad things in history are examples for the better future, and should not be objects of cleanup."

Do you not think that the origin of the cleanup movement of the Fifth Republic's wrongdoings is the forced suppression of the Kwangju civil uprising?

"It is a fact that the situation during the 1980's was regretful and unfortunate. Not going through a rational procedure to resolve the problem also caused great pain.

"After the 26 October declaration, the political and social demands exploded simultaneously. During the process of recovering the order, political circles suffered from the results of the unfortunate circumstances, including the Kwangju incident. We can consider it a healing process to have learned a lesson not to repeat such incidents."

When the Fifth Republic was considering the successor for the power, were you one of the possible successors?

"Some people thought I was a potential successor in the so-called 'post-Chon' era, but it was just a rumor. Those who heard my theory of 'flower support' knew it was a rumor. I used to tell people that although the flower can bear seeds, the flower support cannot."

The problem of regional emotion is getting more serious in our society.

"Regional emotion has become so intense that we cannot fill the crack even with Mt. Halla and Mt. Paikdu. Regional emotion cannot be healed with words or declarations. In order for it to heal, no circumstance that instigates regional emotion should be allowed."

If the issues related to the Fifth and Sixth Republics are resolved in a desirable way, does it affect the plannning of the new political party?

"The two issues are totally separate. The problem is to separate the Fifth Republic from the Sixth in a simple-minded manner. The formation of a new political power that has a clear line and philosophy is an inevitable process."

At one point, there was a strong movement to replace the old generation with a new one in the political circles. From the viewpoint that a new creative political party is inevitable, what is your opinion on this?

"If we consider a situation dominated by one man to be anti-democratic, excluding a certain person from politics in advance should also be criticized as anti-democratic. Opportunities should be given to anyone for a fair competition to obtain the people's judgment. We have to avoid forcing people into a frame."

Economic Board Urges Opening Service Market

SK1611031191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0216 GMT 16 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 15 (YONHAP)—South Korea will need to pay as much attention to the service sector as the agricultural sector of the Uruguay Round trade talks if it wants to keep its original market liberalization plan, officials at the Economic Planning Board (EPB) warned Saturday.

The United States, Japan, the European Community and Canada had presented request lists demanding wider and quicker service market opening than proposed in Korea's offer list, the EPB officials said.

The request lists make demands in, among other things, the medical, franchising, real estate, research and development, telecommunications, market survey and legal service markets.

In legal services, the United States and EC want to open offices here as international law consultants, either as branches or joint ventures, the EPB officials said.

The United States also wants to open hospital management services in Korea, an area undeveloped here, they said.

Korea said in its offer list that it would allow foreign investment in value added network services from 1994, but other countries want seoul to push up the date.

In distribution services, partly opened in July, they asked for wider opening and raising limits on the size and number of distribution outlets.

Other requests include franchising, where advanced countries want simpler licensing requirements and procedures and inclusion of real estate brokerage in the list of Korean market opening.

"Some of the service market openings these advanced countries demand cover areas alien to us, and it is hard for us to handle the demands because they are new concepts here," one EPB official said.

"We will be making our own request lists to other countries. We will submit them some time early next week," he said.

Kim In-ho, assistant EPB minister for international economic policy coordination, will lead the Korean negotiating team to Geneva. The team, due to leave Saturday afternoon, will lobby to stick by Korea's original offer list and exclude rice from tariffication plans.

* Competition for 'Koreasat' Launch Contract

912C0297A Seoul CHUGAN MAEKYONG in Korean 14 Aug 91 pp 24-28

[Article by reporter Yun Yong-kol: "Countdown Begins in the 'Koreasat' Bidding War, the Industrial Big Four Out for Contract—Who Will Be the Winner ?"]

[Text] The countdown has begun in the race for the contract for the 300 billion-won communication and broadcasting satellite Koreasat [Mugunghwa] which will be Korea's first when launched.

Golden Opportunity for High Technology Transfer

The industrial Big Four—Samsung, Hyundai, Lucky-Goldstar, and Daewoo—all put in their proposals in the bidding that closed on 22 June, signaling the start of a spark-flying competition.

Whoever wins the contract at the end, it will very likely create a major stir in the business communities. The Koreasat program is of exceedingly large scale and, in addition, provides an opportunity for sharpening and polishing high technologies in the space science area. For all this, an intense tug of war is under way with the participants determined not to yield an inch of ground.

Although the Koreasat budget is of a modest 300 billion-won scale, the manufacturing contract would mean for the winning firm to put itself in the position of acquiring—on a monopoly basis—satellite technologies through joint production with the foreign counterpart. And considering the 10-year life span of a satellite, the firm will continue to be in the same leading position over each of the new satellites launched in the future.

The program is expected to spend approximately 150 billion won to build the satellite hardware, 100 billion won for the launching, and 50 billion won on the construction of ground facilities.

The recently closed bidding is for two satellites—the main and the auxiliary, estimated at 75 billion won each in cost. Contracts will be signed with the successful tenderer in December and the manufacturing is to be completed by December 1994.

Plans call for launching the main satellite in April 1995 and the auxiliary satellite in October the same year.

Meanwhile, the bidding for the launching is scheduled for November this year, and the placing of orders for ground facilities in about 1993.

Our people's expectations regarding the Koreasat program that will usher in an era of North-South openness in broadcasting and of simultaneous broadcasts to compatriots in Japan, Sakhalin and other rim regions are extraordinarily high.

Therefore, although the anticipated contracts are far smaller in size compared with those in the bullet-train project, they carry an equally heavy weight in terms of impact on the national life. World satellite markets are also extremely sensitive to developments, desperately trying to feel out who will get the star role.

Unfortunately, however, in the case of the four Korean chaebol corporations, their participation is not as a prime contractor, because their technological levels are literally barren as far as man-made satellites are concerned. For now, they are compelled to pursue the strategy of acquiring the required technologies through the Koreasat program for future use on a second-generation satellite program anticipated for the year 2003 or so.

In the Samsung Group, Samsung Electronics and Samsung Aerospace Industries, which forged a partnership with Hughes of the United States, are in a hurry for getting a complete technology transfer on satellite hardware and components.

As for the Hyundai Group, Hyundai Electronics Industries—which, along with France's Alcatel and Aerospatiale and Italy's Allenia, joined the U.S. firm Loral as a subcontractor—plan to have technologies transferred from the firms involved.

The Lucky-Goldstar Group: Goldstar Information & Communications and Daehan Hanggong plan to be the top runner in the future next-generation satellite program through transfer of manufacturing technology from GE of the United States.

The Daewoo Group: Daewoo Heavy Industries and Daewoo Telecom Co. have been engrossed in satellite communications work since British Aerospace (BAe) designated it for technology transfer.

Then, who will be the lucky winner of the rich contracts?

Their Present Status: Tie-Ups

In September last year, Hughes Incorporated signed a tie-up with Samsung Company concerning satellite supply and satellite communications, forming the Hughes-Samsung line.

The contract provides that if Hughes is chosen to be the prime contractor, it will transfer to Samsung key technologies of satellite hardware, control systems and ground facilities.

With Samsung Company acting as the contact point, Samsung set up a technology council made up of four companies—Samsung Electronics, Samsung Aerospace Industries, Samsung Electro-Mechanics, and Samsung Institute of Technology. At the same time, it set up Sky Data Incorported, a firm for development and marketing of satellite communication facilities, in Florida in preparation for full participation in satellite business.

Hughes, unlike other firms, developed its own model and has the experience of technology transfer to Australia, Indonesia and Canada. Hughes and Samsung therefore are confident that they are No. 1 prime contractor candidate.

Hughes asserts that it is absolutely superior to rival firms in the records of performance and failure percentage.

The number of commercial satellites launched into a geostationary orbit by Hughes over the past 10 years is 44, which they assert is incomparably larger than Loral's 22, GE's 14, BAe's nine, and Aerosptiale's seven.

According to Hughes' explanations, while its record shows no case of failure involving compensations from insurance, Loral collected as much as $200 million in such compensations for cases of failure, GE $67 million, and BAe $5.5 million. Also, asserting that the rival firms are multinational firms involving three to four nationalities, a factor allegedly making it difficult to obtain technology transfer or pursue liability in the event of malfunction, the Hughes-Samsung side is confident of winning the contract.

Samsung-Hughes, Lucky Goldstar-GE

In the top group and competing for the lead with the Hughes-Samsung line is the GE-Lucky Goldstar line. GE, known for its three-axial satellite, is renowned for its outstanding technology in the *bus*—satellite's skeleton—area.

GE, which entered into a tie-up with Lucky-Goldstar following the announcement of the communication satellite program last year, signed an agreement with it on transfer of technology in the production of satellite components. The agreement also contains GE's offer for Lucky-Goldstar to positively participate in its satellite programs.

GE entered into a tie-up with Marconi, a British firm specializing in communications equipment, as well as with Goldstar Information and Communications and Daehan Aeronautics, in what was seen as a move to go round the tight U.S. technology control and arrange the technology transfer through the British firm.

GE says that while the Hughes product is of cylinder type, the GE product is of the most advanced three-axial attitude control type and therefore is easier for increased output and has greater advantage in putting on payload.

According to GE, it is optimistic about winning in the bidding because the three-axial type is the world trend and the Koreasat program also reflects that trend. It quotes 1989 data of the Japanese Posts and Telecommunications Ministry as indicating that, of the 106 cylinder-type satellites launched, the success rate was 84 percent, whereas the rate of successful launching was 96.4 percent with the three-axial type.

Especially, in view of this difference in the success rate with the satellites launched since 1980, GE further explains, even Hughes shifted to the three-axial type.

Marconi is technologically strong in the payload area and GE in the *bus* area. This led analysts to say that they established a system of complementing each other.

Loral Space, which took over the Ford aircraft company last year and ventured into space and aeronautics business in earnest, is currently doing everything it can with Hyundai Electronics to win the Koreasat contract.

Hyundai in Tie-Up With Loral

The Loral Group which joined hands with Hyundai is in fact one of the multinational corporations. The current status of the Group's share holdings is that Loral Space System, the American mother company and controlling stockholder, owns 51 percent, with the remainder 49 percent divided among four companies—the French satellite makers Alcatel and Aerosptiale, Italy's Allenia, and Japan's Mitsubishi.

All these satellite makers but Japan's Mitsubishi are out for the Koreasat manufacturing contract, forming a joint front with Hyundai.

The Hyundai satellite program task force is made up of some 30 top-notch members picked from Hyundai's electronic information and communications system team, communications development team, and its Electronics Research Institute. Separately, Hyundai established the Space Program Headquarters jointly with Loral on 11 May.

The Loral side insists that it is most experienced in the Intelsat program and that its technology with the three-axial type is the most advanced. Its satellite is light in weight and yet powerful.

It also notes, boastfully, that Mitsubishi will prove to be the best partner to help Hyundai master the technology, citing the fact that the Japanese firm had gained its technology from Ford, Loral's predecessor.

If they win the contract, the agreed division of work is for Loral to make the satellite hardware, Aerosptiale and Alcatel and Allenia to jointly supply electronics and communications parts for *bus* components.

Of the four groups, BAe was the last to take part in the bidding—its bid came four days to the deadline by joining hands with Daewoo. The only non-U.S. group, BAe will likely show some formidable strength, with such factors as the EC integration behind it.

BAe participated in the bidding jointly with TRW, a leading U.S. firm specializing in space communications systems, and the French company Matra which took part in the development of Eurostar, a latest-model satellite, and the German firm Toruni [name as published].

In the event of joint production, BAe will reportedly take the van leading the entire work ranging from system designing to manufacturing to assembly. At the same time, it will be in charge of the manufacturing of *bus* and other major hardware parts and ground station facilities, while TRW and Matra will make payload components and satellite frame parts respectively.

The reason Daewoo picked BAe, a British firm, is above all that getting a transfer of technology will be easier. It sees the regulatory measures involving BAe as being rather loose in comparison with the abnormally tight U.S. control.

In fact, the launching of satellites by Spain, India and other developing nations, Daewoo officials explain, was mostly with the support of BAe and other European firms, not U.S. firms.

Also, consideration of the impact from the EC integration scheduled for 1992 was a big factor, for Daewoo is the top runner in European markets, its share exceeding 60 percent.

The Daewoo Group decided that Daewoo Heavy Industries will push for domestic production of the satellite hardware and attitude-control facilities and for management of ground-control facilities programs, and that Daewoo Telecom Co. will work for domestic production of payload equipment and ground-control facilities.

Daewoo-BAe Technology Transfer Promised

Hughes, Loral, GE and BAe are now busy lobbying with authorities in charge, namely, the Ministry of Communications and the Korea Telecommunications Authority, while waging an intense tug of war between them.

However, as explained earlier, each group has its fatal weakness.

First, although Hughes claims its technological superiority, its cylinder-type satellite is, according to experts, no longer a trend. Another weak point—which is even more serious—is the widely-held view that the U.S. attitude toward technology transfer is most rigid. In fact, Samsung that has forged a partnership with Hughes is known to be the weakest as far as guarantees for getting technology transfer are concerned.

In addition, since the bidders in the group are only Samsung and Hughes, they will very likely be under pressure in the lobbying aspect. Technology indeed should be the first consideration but the decision will inevitably involve political considerations too. And in that case, a group with participating firms both in the United States and Europe will be in a more favorable position.

As for GE, it was recently involved in a case in Japan that seriously damaged its reliability.

The solar battery of Japan's broadcast satellite BS3a failed to function properly, bringing broadcasting to a halt for three months.

BS3a, built by Nippon Denki [NEC] and launched in August 1990, developed a post-launch mechanical problem in a section of the power supply system for which GE was responsible, which cut the output to three-fourths of the planned level and thereby caused a suspension of broadcasting.

The trouble spawned the notion among the Japanese that "communication satellites are very risky business" and their fever cooled down somewhat.

An artificial satellite is 36,000 kilometers away from the earth. So, if it develops mechanical problems, there is no way of correcting them. Also, because it is utilized by every citizen, the consequences are bound to be enormously widespread.

Although Loral and BAe, in tie-ups with Hyundai and Daewoo respectively, ostensibly have firms from three to four countries as their partners, they are, according to assessments by experts, more or less lagging behind Hughes and GE.

Government To Announce Result in Late November

The Ministry of Communications and the Korea Telecommunications Authority will first consider technical-standards proposals submitted by the four groups regarding performance and technology transfer and select firms qualified in this respect, then pick the one that has proposed the lowest cost among them.

Their policy is to separately consider technical standards and costs, and to select the lowest-cost tenderer from among the firms that have passed established levels in the technical standards evaluation.

Also under study is a plan to give priority to the firm that has gained the highest point in the technical standards evaluation. According to this plan, if its price is higher than others, it will be urged to bring it down to the lowest bid level.

The Ministry of Communications will spend three months through October evaluating proposals submitted by the bidding firms before opening the sealed bids. It plans to announce the results toward the end of November.

List of Factors Relating to Koreasat

Factor	Description
Purpose	Communication relay, direct broadcast
Weight	900 kilograms
Orbit	Geostationary over the equator
Altitude	36,000 kilometers
Life span	10 years
Manufacturing period	1992-94 (36 months)
Time of launch	April 1995
To begin operating	October 1995
Agency in charge	Korea Telecommunications Authority
Budget	300 billion won
Name	Koreasat
Number of satellites	Main, reserve; one each
Orbit location	116 degrees East
Beam center	127.5 degrees East, 36 degrees North (Muju, North Cholla)
Relay devices	12 36MHz for communications, 3 27MHz for broadcast
Relay output	Communications 12W, broadcasting 120W

* Article on Manufacturers' Ownership of Facilities

922C0004A Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean5 Sep 91 p 6

[Article by reporter Cho Kyong-yop: "Only 54 Percent of Small and Medium Manufacturers Own Production Factories"]

[Text] Small and medium-sized enterprises have suffered from an inability to create their own manufacturing facilities due to the high price of real estate, which has increased over the last several years.

This is demonstrated by failures in the production area and in the development of new products and though there has been an increase in wages, manufacturers are having a difficult time attracting skilled technical workers.

Over time, the age of the financiers of small and medium-sized enterprises has decreased and these people have more experience working at small and medium-sized enterprises rather than large ones.

Kim Hyung-bae, chairman of the Small and Medium Enterprise Promotion Corporation, published an analysis of reports from the managers of 448 small and medium-sized manufacturers during the period 1988 to 1990.

According to this report only a little over half (244 or 54.5 percent) of the 448 small and medium-sized businesses have their own manufacturing facilities.

There have been few businesses that possess their own factories, especially in 1988. In 1988 there were 29 (76.3 percent) among the 38 new enterprises that were approved, in 1989 there were 125 (57.6 percent) and in 1990 there were 90 (46.6 percent). Purchasing manufacturing facilities has been difficult because the price of real estate has risen dramatically in the past several years.

The number of leased factories for small and medium-sized businesses has risen and the resulting increase in initial expenses for new businesses has been a barrier preventing them from quickly establishing financial stability.

The manufacturing facilities for 81.4 percent (166 businesses) of the 204 new small and medium-sized enterprises are located on 500 square meter lots and these ventures cannot grow to become more than a "poor business."

In terms of the number of employees, 48.8 percent of the companies had fewer than 20 employees in 1989, but this number increased to 69.4 percent in 1990. Conversely, in 1989, 29 (13.3 percent) businesses employed over 51 people and this number dropped to 16 (8.2 percent) in 1990. New businesses cannot find skilled technical workers and are being forced to increase their initial capital investments to allow them to purchase automatic production equipment.

The founders of these businesses are younger and have experience in running small and medium-sized businesses rather than large companies.

Among the 795 new businesses approved by the Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise Promotion Corporation from 1984 to 1990, 385 (48.4 percent) were established by people in the 36-45 year-old age bracket. In 1988, 20.1 percent of these people were in the 36-40 year-old age group, but in 1990 this number climbed to 26.3 percent. The percentage of those under 35 years of age continues to increase.

In 1988, 58.6 percent (four people) of the entrepreneurs had previous experience in small and medium-sized businesses; this number jumped to 72.4 percent (168 people) in 1990 and the percentage of those with experience in large companies continues to decrease.

A high percentage of them have college degrees, but since 1989 the number of those who do not have a high school diploma has increased, little by little.

The Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise Promotion Corporation reports that new businesses complain about the lack of skilled technical labor, the amount of money needed to fund new production facilities and the difficulty of finding locations for new factories. In addition, more initial capital investment is required to start a new business and the Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise Promotion Corporation plans to assist these new enterprises by establishing a system that will provide information on skill development and automatic production technology.

Burma

Defense Commander Warns Over Insurgent Links

BK2011103791 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Announcer-read report on a speech given by General Than Shwe at a meeting with residents from Wet-The Village and the Pegon, Thabawgan, and Magyi Village tracts on 18 November]

[Excerpts] General Than Shwe, deputy chairman of State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and deputy commander in chief of the Defense Services and commander in chief of the Army, accompanied by Lieutenant General Phone Myint, SLORC member and minister of home and religious affairs and information and culture; Major General Tin U, SLORC secretary-2; high-ranking Defense Services officials; and departmental officials left Yangon [Rangoon] by helicopter at 0900 on 18 November and arrived at Hainggyi village in Ngaputaw Township of Irrawaddy Division at 1020. [passage omitted]

The general held a meeting with the members of township and ward law and order restoration councils, departmental officials, and the local people in the assembly hall of the village's middle school. Speaking on the occasion, Gen. Than Shwe elaborated on the need for the prevalence of law and order and regional peace and tranquillity, for people to cooperate with the Defense Services to eradicate insurgency, and the efforts being made by the state to develop the nation.

SLORC Secretary-2 Maj. Gen. Tin U next explained that the village junior high school will be permitted to be upgraded to high school in the 1992-93 academic year.

After bidding the students and the villagers farewell, Gen. Than Shwe and his entourage proceeded by helicopter to Ngayokkaung village of Ngaputaw Township and arrived there at 1230. [passage omitted]

Gen. Than Shwe held a meeting with departmental officials and the local people at the village high school. Speaking, the general explained the long-term objectives of the insurgent Karen National Union [KNU], arduous efforts being made by the Defense Services personnel to ensure security for the local people, and the need for them to cooperate conscientiously with the Defense Services to eradicate insurgency and be loyal to the nation. [passage omitted]

At 1300, the general and his party proceeded to Wet-The village of Bassein West Township where they were welcomed by Lieutenant Colonel J. Han Shein, chairman of Bassein Township Zone Law and Order Restoration Council, Regimental Commander Lt. Col. Zaw Lin, responsible officials, and the local people. Gen. Than Shwe delivered a speech at a meeting held at the village center with the local people from Wet-The village and the Pegon, Thabawgan, and Magyi village tracts.

The general said: We have come here to carry out programs for the regional peace and tranquillity and the prevalence of law in Irrawaddy Division. You already know about the infiltration of the KNU insurgents into the Delta region—an area that had been peaceful for 19 years. The Defense Services had crushed the infiltrators within a matter of days. We are making plans to ensure that the insurgents do not establish a foothold again and to prevent similar infiltrations from recurring. We are making preparations to ensure that the insurgents do not infiltrate this particular region by any means, either via land or sea routes.

The KNU had previously setup footholds in the Irrawaddy Division. Generally speaking, since the KNU had stayed in this region for a number of years, it will not doubt be trying to regain that situation. The KNU insurgents have a long-term objective of setting up footholds in the Irrawaddy Division, and because of this, we have been making long-term regional security plans.

We cannot carry out regional security plans alone. It is vital for the local people to conscientiously cooperate with us. It is essential to understand in whose interests regional security is for. For the Defense Services, they are always safe. Because we exist as an armed organized group, no one dares to insult us. Anyone who tries will be crushed.

We are carrying out regional security programs to give people a secure life. Anyone who has lived under insurgent control understands the adverse effects of a lawless and insecure life. Since there is no law, people can be killed, villages can be set on fire, robberies committed, money extorted, all at their whim and fancy. Anyone of a certain age group will understand the difference betweeen living in peace and a life of hell because local people here have experienced such difficulties before. Hence, what we are doing is to ensure they live peacefully under the rule of law. Our efforts are aimed at making the people live a happy life and at ensuring that they sleep, eat, travel, trade, and farm securely. Working conditions will then become relaxed and economic development will follow. Such are our well-intentioned goals in carrying out security work. We are not doing things to make our lives secure.

The local people should understand the intention behind the security arrangements. It is essential to understand that the Defense Services personnel have come here from afar. They live in difficult conditions, and are separated from their parents, wives, and children. These are the sacrifices they have been making to ensure a secure life for the people. Hence, there is no reason for the people who live in this region not to be able to work for the security of their own area; they must do it. This is something they must understand. [passage omitted]

In suppressing the insurgency, we will crush all groups outside the framework of law engaged in armed insurgency to create disturbance and persecute the people, be it the KNU or the Burma Communist Party [BCP]. We will fight whoever it is, be it the KNU, the BCP, or the Kachin Independence Army [KIA]. We have to fight them because they operate outside the law by taking up arms to oppose the state and persecute the people. We can achieve our victory quickly if the people join hands to fight with us. Insurgency will be eradicated if the people will cooperate.

Presently, we have been able to crush the insurgents who had infiltrated the Delta region in a matter of days. The enemy underestimated us. They thought that they could infiltrate the Delta because they had lived there before, that the Defense Services cannot catch up with them because they know the streams to go in and out of and the terrain well.

However, the Defense Services are no longer the same. It was difficult to transport a regiment before. Today, if needed, we can send in any number of military units—10, 20, 50, or more. Do not test us by misjudging our capability. Today, if rebels use boats, we can chase them with a helicopter. If they travel by boat for two days we can catch up with them in 20 minutes.

Some local people thought quite highly of them and went over to their side only to end up in trouble. If one becomes an insurgent, he will be treated as such and be crushed decisively. It would not be necessary to explain our attitude to the people or about what we have been doing for regional peace, prosperity, agriculture, and development. It can be seen everywhere. [passage omitted]

Hence, it is necessary to join hands with us in confidence. You must not believe rumors from the outside. Trust in what your own blood tells you. The state government is like your own parents. If we break up because we believe the rumors from outside, we will be fighting each other and end up in trouble. Those outsiders will only pay lip service and try to cause trouble. They will act indifferently like bystanders watching brothers fight and hurt one another. It is essential to know that what they say and encourage is aimed at breaking up the nation, creating unrest, and sowing mistrust. It is vital not to be misled by this. Today, there are people who are confused and have been led astray. They will only end up in trouble. [passage omitted]

When the KNU insurgents infiltrated the Delta we were able to smash them within days. This is because the strength of the Defense Services is no longer the same as before. Before, we had to go to great lengths just to deploy one regiment. Today, we can even deploy 100 regiments. This is just to let you know about the us. If one tries to defy us or does something thinking that the we can be outdone, he will be committing a grave mistake. We have many good weapons that can be used at any time. But, we only use weapons that was called for in the Delta situation. If needed, we can use even more.

Hence, what I want to ask the local people is this: are you going to live peacefully, go about earning your living peacefully, and cooperate with us for the development of the nation? Or, are you going to cause problems, caring nothing about the whole village being set ablaze or about what happens to the whole town as long as you do well? If that is how one feels, the precedence about the whole of Irrawaddy Division being in trouble must be recalled here. Hence, it is necessary that you be not led astray when the insurgents come to summon you.

It is vital to actively cooperate with the Defense Services in crushing the insurgents. By that I mean to cooperate with the knowledge that one has the duty ensure peace in one's own region. Orders to block, surround, or build roads must be obeyed. Building roads will contribute to economic development and security. Hence, it is essential to help us suppress terrorist insurgents.

One point I wish to raise here is information about the enemy. Enemy movements in one's region must be reported. If no information is provided, it amounts to suppression of information and relates to treason and insurrection against the state. Legal action will be taken accordingly, and the guilty may receive a life or even a death sentence. The act amounts to a betrayal of the people, of one's kin.

When there are insurgents around, it must be understood that people's lives in that region are at stake, that there will be no peace, that the economy will be disrupted, that there will be no secure travel and no peaceful sleep at night. Hence, if no information is given despite such an understanding, it would mean that one is not loyal to or is betraying one's own region and one's own villagers. Hence, information about the enemy must be reported to the Defense Services. It must be profoundly understood that the duty of quickly eradicating the insurgency from one's region lies with the Defense Services, the residents, and the other local people.

Through loyalty to one's own region and nation and with an understanding that the security efforts are for one's own good, the people must cooperate and fight hand in hand with the Defense Services to prevent the saboteurs from infiltrating this region and from destroying the nation.

There are Karen, Burmese, and Arakan villages in this region. People in all of these villages are blood relatives. Arakan people are one of our national races and members of our Union. The Burmese, the Karens, and the Mons are also the same.

What we are doing today is in accordance with the Union policy. We do things according to the Union policy to prevent the Union from disintegrating. We are working to prevent the disintegration of national unity and friendship among national races. We are trying to prevent the sovereignty—the supreme entity of the nation—from breaking up. In addition, our goodwilled efforts to make the people prosper and live a healthy life are also aimed at developing the Union. It must be profoundly understood that we are not doing something for a particular race, say the Burmese, the Karens, or the Arakans, that we only have a Union spirit and no racial favoritism or leanings. Whenever needed, we do things for all, be it the Karen or the Kachin villages, without any discrimination.

We are all residing on the same land and sharing the same waters, and are co-travelers on the same boat heading for one destination. This being the case, it is necessary that we live in harmony, work for the progress of our Union, and crush the subversive elements with vigilance.

Following the meeting, Gen. Than Shwe cordially greeted the people before proceeding to Chaungtha beach in Bassein West Township and arrived there at 1510. [passage omitted]

Cambodia

Son Sann Interviewed on Peace Agreement 13 Nov

BK1711090991 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 17 Nov 91

[Unidentified station correspondent's interview with Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front and member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council; dated 13 November—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Greetings, Your Excellency Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] and member of the Supreme National Council [SNC]. Please allow me to ask you about some points for the benefit of compatriot listeners of the Voice of the Khmer radio [VOK].

The first point. On 23 October 1991, a Cambodian peace agreement was signed. This agreement is being implemented. Could you please tell the clergy, compatriots, and VOK listeners how this agreement has been implemented.

[Son Sann] Compatriots know that the Cambodians have been suffering for 21 years. The international community, including the five major powers, the ASEAN countries—which have been helping us since 1979—the United Nations, and the world sympathize with us. This is why on 23 October we signed the agreement to solve the problem in accordance with the plan of the five major powers. This is a big step, a major stage. However, the signing is only on paper. The agreement remains to be implemented. Your question concerns the implementation. This will be another difficult phase.

As compatriots have heard, the international community and the United Nations have sent their forces to Phnom Penh. Diplomats have also arrived to assist us. The United Nations and many other countries are providing humanitarian aid for our compatriots suffering from hardship and hunger. To solve the Cambodian problem, things should be reorganized.

We note that one issue has not been discussed i.e. whether all Vietnamese have left Cambodia. Compatriots in these countries are well aware of this. I am worried. We have been fighting for 11-12 years to liberate our Cambodia from the Vietnamese aggressors. Now it seems that this issue has not been discussed. The international community is concerned about this. The solution of the five major powers stipulates that UN international forces should control the withdrawal of all Vietnamese forces from Cambodia. Please do not forget this. If you know where the Vietnamese are, please inform the United Nations and its forces so that they can help us to free our country and get rid of Vietnamese forces first.

Another point is the disarming of troops. This will be implemented. Cooperation with the SNC and UNTAC [United Nations Transistional Authority in Cambodia] is the main thing. Our SNC will work with the United Nations to set up organizational structures from Phnom Penh down to provinces, districts, and communes for the general elections. This is one of the key points in solving the Cambodian problem. The road toward this goal is still rather long. However, if Cambodian compatriots are aware of this, please assist the United Nations and the SNC. There should be mutual understanding among SNC members. They should be united. They should not just be understanding and considerate. They should also unite and work to quickly solve the Cambodian problem because we have already agreed on the solution signed on 23 October in Paris.

Thus, we should strive to implement this agreement quickly so that our people will have peace. Once we have done this, international aid will flow in to rebuild our country in accordance with our people's aspiration. Then peace will be durable.

[Correspondent] Thank you your excellency president. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk has arrived in Phnom Penh. Can you tell our compatriots and listeners when you will go to Phnom Penh.

[Son Sann] At the last meeting in Paris, France, under Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's chairmanship, I said all SNC members should go to Phnom Penh to welcome the samdech chairman who will arrive on 14 November. I do not know where to stay in Phnom Penh now because according to the samdech chairman, the Phnom Penh side said they could not find accommodation.

Now, we have found the accommodation. Our five-men team led by Penn Thol and Ambassador Sieng Lapresse, [words indistinct] arrived yesterday in Phnom Penh to look for suitable accommodation. I will go and not miss any SNC meeting. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk is receiving guests in Phnom Penh and busy with personal matters. However, he will also convene an SNC meeting. I do not want to be a nuisance by delaying the meeting. I will certainly go though accommodation has not been found. I will go and look around for a decent place to stay. I will not wait until a house is available or till I'm told that one is available. When the samdech has decided on the day of the meeting, I will have to go.

[Correspondent] Thank you Your Excellency Chairman. Before ending this interview, do you have anything to pass on to the clergy and Cambodian compatriots inside Cambodia before you leave for Phnom Penh?

[Son Sann] I would only like to inform the clergy and all compatriots that we have taken a major step in solving the Cambodian problem through the signing of the agreement in Paris on 23 October. We should rejoice over this. However, the agreement still has to be implementated.

As I have told them, the speed of the implementation will depend on the sincerity, unity and cooperation of the four parties who signed the agreement. If the international community realizes that we are doing this, they will assist us and give us all sorts of aid and not just humanitarian aid in the form of packets. There will also be aid to rebuild our country.

Therefore, from now on, I beg all compatriots to be mutually understanding, to cooperate closely, and to not discriminate against one another so as to work for the benefit of our long suffering Cambodian people. If we can achieve this, if we think of the interests of the country and the people, we will have peace, prosperity, and glory.

[Correspondent] Thank you. On behalf of compatriot VOK listeners, I thank Your Excellency Son Sann, KPNLF President and Cambodian SNC member, for informing the clergy and Cambodian compatriots and VOK listeners. Thank you.

[Son Sann] Thank you. The clergy, please pray that our people will cooperate with one another.

Hun Sen Gives 17 Nov News Conference

BK1911125391 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Station correspondent's report on news conference given by Hun Sen, vice chairman of the Cambodian People's Party (CPP) Central Committee and chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, at Chamka Mon state palace on 17 November to over 200 national and international press, radio, and television correspondents—recorded]

[Text] Dear ladies and gentlemen: First of all, I would like to extend warm greetings to all ladies and gentlemen who are at my present news conference. I would like also to take this opportunity to thank all ladies and gentlemen for coming to report on the important events in the process of national reconciliation in Cambodia. You must know that the homecoming by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and his royal consort is the most auspicious event for national reconciliation. The past few days can be regarded as the most joyous ones for the Cambodian people, following the more than 24 years of tragedy. Nothing is more important than the restoration of peace and the reunion of family, of father and children. All of us are happy; both the welcomers and the ones who are welcomed—Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, his royal consort, and his entourage—are all happy.

You have probably already assessed the events that have taken place in the past few days regarding the State of Cambodia [SOC]'s honest fulfillment of the promises to implement the agreement on the overall solution and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's correct leadership in the national reconciliation process.

It is true, I must tell you, that some people are not happy with the activities we carried out for Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk and his royal consort and those by Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk and his royal consort toward our gestures. During the past few days, those who used to oppose the monarchy and who toppled Samdech Norodom Sihanouk in 1970 were not very happy when Samdech Norodom Sihanouk sincerely praised the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and the SOC. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk has sincerely praised the efforts made by the CPP and SOC Government in rebuilding the country and in implementing the agreement on the solution to the Cambodian problem.

Some people have accused Samdech Norodom Sihanouk of not being neutral and of siding with the Phnom Penh government. But, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk has announced that neutrality should also be accompanied by justice and realism. This is very true. He cannot do otherwise. He cannot call black something that is white in his capacity as a person who accepts the truth. Moreover, we have followed the style of the Sangkum Reas Niyum Party which was headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk before the [1970] coup d'etat. And thus there is no reason for Samdech Norodom Sihanouk not to praise and encourage us because we have followed the samdech's line. Therefore, it is certainly incorrect for those to criticize Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, and it means that they really do not accept the so-called truth. Some have said that the people's welcome for Samdech Norodom Sihanouk is not out of the people's sincerity, but that these people were forced by the CPP to shout cheers and extend their welcome.

You are journalists from the free world; you must have seen everything taking place here. Have the people been forced by the CPP to raise their welcoming hands or have they done this out of their own spirit? However, those events have already passed and have confirmed whatever has taken place in the land of Angkor during the past few days.

I would like also to inform all of you about the new situation that has just occurred: today, a member of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea, which used to be called the Khmer Rouge, arrived in Phnom Penh. An unavoidable small demonstration took place at noon today. Lately, I have made great efforts to appeal for my people to remain calm in order to maintain an atmosphere for the SNC to function smoothly. However, despite these efforts, we could not avoid people from gathering there to demand the return of their fathers, wives, mothers, and sisters from the murderers who killed them. After learning of that problem, I would like to inform you that the government's measures are just to appeal to our compatriots to maintain the calm and stability and return home in order to avoid creating a cloudy atmosphere when the other members of the SNC, including the Khmer Rouge, are coming to work in Phnom Penh. At the same time, I would like to ask the leaders of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea, the so-called Khmer Rouge, to preserve calmness and to inform us whenever they make a trip in order to avoid any danger that might arise due to the people's resentment.

Moreover, on this occasion I certainly can be found lacking in courtesy as the host in not paying a visit to them at the hotel, and I can be accused of partiality as I visited even the mere experts of Prince Norodom Ranariddh at the hotel to welcome them in my capacity as the host. But with regard to the Khmer Rouge leaders, I cannot visit them. I am afraid that the people might scold me if I visit them. I must admit that I am in a very difficult situation because if I follow the people's request allowing them to demonstrate against the Khmer Rouge and fail to provide security for their leaders, there will certainly be a problem. On the one hand, if we do not give permission to stage demonstrations or send the police against the demonstrators, we would be accused of violating human rights. However, if we allow the people to demonstrate and do not provide adequate security for them, should the demonstrations become violent and fatally or injuriously affect the Khmer Rouge leaders, we would be responsible for failing to give them security. Consequently, I am certainly having a hard time. And this question is certainly difficult to solve as far as the people are concerned and as far as the implementation of the signed agreement is concerned. However, I am optimistic that my compatriots will certainly create a favorable atmosphere for the SOC government to effectively implement the agreement and that no wrongdoing will take place.

This is just my brief opening and I would like to thank all of you for paying attention.

[Question] I am a Chinese correspondent of CCTV. I have two questions for you. The first question: SNC members from three out of four parties are now in Phnom Penh. When will Son Sann's SNC delegation arrive? If they do not come, what would happen? Second question: Is there any meeting between Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Mr. Hun Sen, and Mr. Son Sen in the near future? Thank you.

[Hun Sen] I would like to inform you that only Son Sann's faction has not arrived in Phnom Penh. The problem is that we have not received any news from Son Sann. Yesterday, at the Site 2 camp, there was a report saying that he may arrive on the 18th, i.e. today. However, the authorities here have not received any confirmation about his arrival. Son Sann has violated the peace agreement in Paris. He has decided that from now on there is no other structure apart from the SNC. He said he announced the dissolution of the tripartite government so that Mr. Hun Sen would also announce the dissolution of his government. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk already specified this yesterday at the meeting. In the agreement, the relations between UNTAC, SNC, and the on-the-spot administration is clearly stated. There is no clause saying that the structure of the on-the-spot administration has been abolished.

In violating the agreement, Son Sann has tried not to have any contact with my government. He has sent all messages through the samdech to me and the samdech is the referee. Thus, I do not know because people do not want me to know. If they do not come, then it is their business. If they arrive and nobody is there to receive them, it is also their business because we are not informed of their arrival. I take this opportunity to say without fear that Mr. Khieu Samphan has a much better attitude than Mr. Son Sann. When he had to send his advance party made up of experts and Mr. Son Sen, he sent a cable to me asking me to welcome them, provide them with transportation from the airport to the hotel, and help them find a house for rent. At least he contacted me. Therefore, as the host, as the one in control of this area, we had to show courtesy by greeting them and lodging them in the hotel. I have to receive many guests. There are, for example, the Thai and French delegations which are coming soon, and we have to make arrangements for their stay in advance. However, we will not let Son Sen and his colleagues go around looking for accommodation and not find any. We have to help. As for the second question about whether or not there will be a consultation between Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, myself, and H.E. Son Sen, on this issue, I would like to inform you that we meet Samdech Norodom Sihanouk every day. It is not for talks about political issues which are outside the framework of the political solution. Rather, they are about the samdech's travelling needs to meet the people. This morning we went to the center for orphans left behind from the former murderous regime. As for the meeting within the SNC framework, perhaps we cannot do it before the 23d, or maybe after the 23d or even a little later than that because we still have many things to do and are busy with the traditional festivals of the Cambodian people. In particular, I have no idea of the personal program between H.E. Son Sen and Samdech Norodom. I do not know whether or not the samdech will grant an audience to Mr. Son Sen.

As for me, I dare not visit Son Sen at his place or ask him to meet me at mine because I am afraid the people might also start chasing me. Thus, I can only meet him at the meeting place of the SNC in the Wat Phnum Hotel because it is set aside as the SNC headquarters. At that time the people will be understanding toward me.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] Mr. Prime Minister, considering the development in Phnom Penh where it is easy to make money and considering the poverty in the countryside, do you think that such a difference can be used as a propaganda basis for the Khmer Rouge?

[Hun Sen] This is a problem for us now and in the future. We understand that the difference between cities and the rural areas is a cause of social instability. Usually the rebel army uses this difference to win over popular support. Because of this, our future development strategy is aimed at the peasants in the countryside. We have solved some of the problems, such as land ownership and development of the agricultural sector. However, due to the country's current situation, we cannot do much. In the future, as the war ends, we believe that we have many qualifications and possibilities to develop rural areas. This will be the efforts to develop the rural community.

Like that of Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the policy of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk to improve the lives of peasants is identical to our own. For our party, we have already decided that if we win the election we will not tax the peasants for five to 10 years. During this period and in the future, we will exempt the import of agricultural equipment for sale to peasants from taxation. We have also thought about developing the infrastructure in rural areas. We have also planned for the re-division of social labor to avoid the imbalance between sparsely populated areas on large tracts of land and densely populated places in small areas. Nevertheless, the policy of social labor redistribution is not a policy of forced labor like the Pol Pot group did. We will strive to build infrastructure such as roads, markets, schools, hospitals, and monasteries, and to eliminate malaria. Our preliminary work is to destroy the mines planted in large tracts of land where the people will have to start cultivating. It is my view that a ruling party in Cambodia can be successful or not depending on whether or not it can solve the agricultural problems to improve the living standards of peasants in Cambodia.

So far, our major task in opposing the Khmer Rouge is in developing the socioeconomy in the rural areas in order to neutralize the Khmer Rouge poison.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] Mr. Prime Minister, when Samdech Norodom Sihanouk returned to Phnom Penh, both television and the press gave him a wide coverage. However, it seems that not much publicity was made about the arrival of Mr. Son Sen and his delegation. What would you do in order to inform the public of the delegation's activities or this new political development?

[Hun Sen] You have radio and television networks. You have reported back to your countries that Mr. Son Sen has arrived in Phnom Penh. I also believe that the Khmer Rouge radio would surely report on his arrival in Phnom Penh. And my remarks here will also be fully replayed in the Cambodian radio and television. The Cambodian people will thus learn of the arrival of Mr. Son Sen. I am not sure whether or not the television will show Mr. Son Sen's pictures on his arrival. If I were a journalist, I would not cover the news or pictures of Mr. Son Sen. And if I were Mr. Son Sen, I would not let my picture be shown to the people. This does not mean that I am afraid of Son Sen gaining popularity among the Cambodian people. What I am worried about is that the people might recognize Mr. Son Sen and attack him when he takes a walk. This is most worrisome to me. I am worried about ensuring safety for these persons.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] May I? When Prince Sihanouk arrived here, he was greeted by Heng Samrin. But we have not seen Heng Samrin in the past few days. We thought: Where is Heng Samrin? Why have we not seen him?

[Hun Sen] During the past few days since the arrival of the samdech, Mr. Heng Samrin has been stricken with a serious case of gastric fever. Even before the samdech's arrival, Mr. Heng Samrin was taking a rest at a place in Pochentong. Now he has to take serum injections all the time in order to fight his illness. Let me stress that this is not a political sickness. It is a worrisome sickness as it is gastric fever. However, I believe that he will recover soon and will be able to participate in the regatta festival to be organized in the coming days.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] Would you please tell us about the alliance between your party and that of Prince Ranariddh? How does this alliance work?

[Hun Sen] Let me tell you that this question has already been made public by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. In a liberal democracy, all parties have the right to choose their own policy and to ally with others. As a matter of fact, FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] and the CPP have already formed their alliance. From now on, we will be allied forever. The objective and aspiration of this alliance is aimed at preserving the supreme interests of our nation. We will use this alliance against no particular person. This alliance is the foundation for social stability in all fields. Therefore, I understand that the other parties should not be worried about this alliance if they know where national interests lie. In fact, the policy of FUNCINPEC and that of the CPP are identical both now and in the future and regarding both the domestic and foreign policy. Therefore, automatically the two parties have become allied to one another. If the two parties remain together, no one can shake or topple them.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] I am wondering if Pen Sovan is living as a free man in Phnom Penh and whether all political prisoners have been released?

[Hun Sen] Allow me to tell you that according to the agreement, all prisoners who are not criminals will be released. In the case of Pen Sovan, he is not a political prisoner. But he was expelled from the party. However, as a Cambodian citizen, he has the right to live in Cambodia. And in the near future, if he chooses to go into politics, it will be his own business.

As for the prisoners of war and other prisoners involved in politics, nearly all of them were released. As for the criminal prisoners, no one can set them free because they have committed crimes such as rape or robbery. Because they robbed people, raped women, or murdered others, they constitute a separate type of prisoner. There are now two groups whose release is being considered. The first group was arrested in Phnom Penh in early 1990. This group is currently under detention. They did not cause explosions in the middle of a military barracks but they did it in the city and were sentenced for harming social stability. The second group are those who were assigned to assassinate me. The prize put on my head was 7 million dollars [currency not further specified]. We have just arrested this group. They were supposed to assassinate me before the elections. The order to kill me was given on 28 May 1991 after the cease-fire went into effect. Their special mission was to assassinate Mr. Hun Sen and they were captured. I am considering handing them over to UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia] because this is an act of terrorism that the world despises.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] Taiwan is prepared to provide assistance to your country. Will Cambodia reestablish relations with Taiwan in the future?

[Hun Sen] My CPP and my government's policy that maybe is also supported by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk advocates a one-China policy. We will not pursue a two-China policy. Therefore, the yet-to-exist official contact between Cambodia and China is the contact between the future government in Phnom Penh and the government of Beijing. The people of Taiwan understand our political situation. We do not want anyone to divide our country and we do not want to interfere in the affairs of other countries. However, this does not mean that we reject economic and commercial relations with Taiwan. We welcome all economic, social, technical, scientific, commercial, and tourism cooperation, but not political ties with Taiwan. We have two journalists, one coming from Beijing and another from Taiwan. Please be understanding toward this topic. [laughter]

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] Mr. Prime Minister, now 70 percent of all forces will be dissolved. Do you have any plan to reintegrate the demobilized soldiers into the national society; do you have any plan to give them jobs? Second question: There are now thousands of handicapped soldiers. Do you have any plan for their reintegration?

[Hun Sen] In the past few months, we have been very busy with this question because we are worried that after leaving the army ranks they would not be able to lead a stable life. I am glad that an article in the agreement stipulates that it is necessary for UNTAC to provide assistance for the demobilized forces. Nevertheless, our government will still have to be responsible for taking care of their livelihood at the initial stage after they leave the army ranks. We have considered their resettlement and have a plan for providing them land as well as jobs. All these questions are not easy to solve because 70 percent of the armies to be dissolved is a large number. However, we will do our best not to let them become robbers because of their needs.

Concerning the invalids, we have been gradually working on their welfare through vocational training. International humanitarian organizations have also made contributions to our own efforts. According to our plan, in the immediate future, we will have to cut our expenses in the national defense sector and spend the budget thus made available on helping the invalids.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] First question: When will the 70 percent reduction of the armed forces begin? Second question: How can we clearly recognize who are the Khmer Rouge soldiers and who are the peasants?

[Hun Sen] On the first point, I already have a calendar and this question depends on the speed of the activities of UNTAC. We only have UNAMIC [United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia] at present, not the UNTAC. This has raised some concern over the delay of the situation. As the cease-fire is already in effect, efforts should be exerted on mustering and reducing troops as this would reduce the danger of a resumption of fighting.

The second point is worrying because according to what I have learned, though I am not very sure, the Khmer Rouge has in their announcement quoted a very high number for their troops. Son Sann has done the same. Where did they get these troops from?

In New York, I accepted that the Party of Demoratic Kampuchea—the Khmer Rouge—had some 40,000 men under arms. Mr. Son Sann announced that he had 48,000 men. That was even more than the Khmer Rouge. My preliminary concern is the forced repatriation of refugees to areas under their control to enroll them and peasants in these areas temporarily into their armies. Then they will have a lot left even after the 70 percent reduction. I have received reports that at the border of Kompong Cham and Kompong Thom Provinces, the Khmer Rouge have gone around taking pictures of the young men for the purpose of issuing army identification cards. This is a difficult problem and a test for the military component of UNTAC to see whether they can deal with it.

During my trip to Australia, I met General Anderson whom the UN Secretary General appointed as commander of the UNTAC military component. I asked him to carry out his mission well and to check clearly whether the troops are genuine or not and whether all weapons and ammunition are handed over or not.

[Question in a foreign language with English and Cambodian translations] Mister Prime Minister, you just talked about the army of Mr. Son Sann. But you know well that Mr. Sak Sutsakhan is the one in charge of the Son Sann army. Do you have any plan to induce him into the problem-solving process as we know that Mr. Son Sann is not on good terms with Mr. Sak Sutsakhan?

[Hun Sen] This is Son Sann's problem, not mine. It is a strange thing in the world if a leader cannot control his own army. If I were Son Sann—I do not want to carp at Son Sann—if I were Son Sann, I would have quit the post a long time ago; I would not have remained chairman. Because it is a disgrace being a chairman and not being able to order his own army commanders and troops. Sak Sutsakhan had proposed to get one among two posts and Son Sann had refused. Now there is nothing to bind Sak Sutsakhan because he did not take part in this agreement. Alright, I will ask Mr. Son Sann for you. I will ask His Excellency Son Sann this question: How are you going to deal with that situation?

[Question in Cambodian] On the issue of political prisoners, it has been pointed out that the ICRC [International Committee of the Red Cross] was not allowed to visit them.

[Hun Sen] The issue of political prisoners is over. All political prisoners have left the prison because we want to solve it quickly following the signing of the agreement. A number of persons were signed...[changes thought] were released before the signing. Thus, I would like to specify that there are only two groups left to be released: the group which caused explosions in early 1990 and the one which attempted to assassinate me.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] If in the future these prisoners are released, will you permit the ICRC to monitor the release?

[Hun Sen] According to the agreement, the ICRC has a role in this. Those persons to be released will be coordinated through the ICRC. Those remaining should also be checked by the ICRC. I do not have to talk with anybody else apart from correctly implementing the existing agreement.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] You have talked about poverty in the countryside. In your coming political propaganda campaign, how would you explain to the people why it took you so long to give assistance to the people in the countryside under your control during the past dozen years?

[Hun Sen] Let me tell you that although there has been some progress, this has been made from scratch. Just that alone has made the people very satisfied. If there is a difference at all, it is the one that exists between a developed city and a developed countryside. This difference does not take place only in Cambodia. It exists in all other poor nations. For us the solution to this problem may be slow because of the war, because we had to start from scratch, because of the endless fighting. Allow me to inform you that the economic blockade was lifted only a few days ago. We have suffered greatly from the economic blockade. What Oxfam [Oxford Committee for Famine Relief] wrote in the book titled "Punishing the Poor" is most correct. We receive only humanitarian aid. We get nothing in development aid, such as the construction of dams and irrigation networks, the supply of water pumps, fertilizer, and insecticide. On this point, as responsible officials, to a great extent we must bear the responsibility for the agricultural policy as well. We are responsible for the land reform in the distribution of land ownership to the people. Because of the confusion in land ownership there are many problems and disputes. How could we best distribute the ownership? We have already asked the people everywhere to forgive us for our mistakes. Moreover, our investment program does not accord with heavy investment in agriculture because national defense requires great expenses. The budget left for the peasants remains limited. The price policy concerning peasant farm produce is inappropriate. It has just been reformed over the past few years. Therefore, the lack of progress was due to both objective factors and subjective causes stemming from my government's mistakes. However, our people understand the situation because we started the road differently from other countries, we started out from scratch, from confusion.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] I want to ask you about the so-called assassination attempts against your life. Who was behind the attempts, how many of them, and since when?

[Hun Sen] I am going to talk directly to UNTAC about that. I do not want to reveal anything at this moment so as not to mess up the atmosphere. Since 1979, the latest one was the ninth attempt against my life. Never once had it come from the forces of Samdech Sihanouk or his party. They originated from the other two factions. Of the first eight attempts we managed to arrest some and lose some. We set all of them free, though. However, we are going to keep for a while those captured in the latest attempt.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] What would you like UNTAC to do with them in the future?

[Hun Sen] As I said, according to the Charter we cannot release them because their crime is one of terrorism condemned by the whole world. If UNTAC releases them, then it is the responsibility of UNTAC.

[Question in a foreign language with English and Cambodian translations] First question, you talked about demonstrations against the Khmer Rouge, can you tell us what kinds of demonstrations they are? Second, are they instantaneous or anything? Third, a tribunal in 1979 already sentenced Pol Pot and Ieng Sary to death in absentia; has this tribunal renounced its sentencing because of national reconciliation?

[Hun Sen] To the first question, I would like to inform you that over the past few days the people have petitioned us for permission to stage demonstrations. We have refused to grant it on the grounds of maintaining good order. However, this morning at 1000 when the people learned that Mr. Son Sen arrived in Phnom Penh and stayed in our guest house, the people came in separately, one from here and the other from there, to form a demonstration.

To the second question about the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary verdict, I would like to tell you that though we want to preserve the ruling of the People's Tribunal, we do not know whether we can preserve it because of the agreement that we have signed. Let me stress, however, that the UN Convention on the condemnation and prevention of genocide does not give anyone any special privilege and that the Paris agreement does not cover that convention. U.S. Secretary of State James Baker proposed that the Polpotist ringleaders be put on trial. If they are to be tried anyway why don't we use the verdict of our tribunal. There would be no need to try them again. But this question should be left to the new government.

[Text] [Question in English with Cambodian translation] Does that mean that until the new government is elected no action will be taken by this government to enforce the convention on genocide of the United Nations?

[Hun Sen] I would like to tell you that during the negotiations, we earnestly proposed that the accord also include a provision that would try the ringleaders responsible for the genocide in Cambodia, and also proposed the inclusion into the accord of a clause on the respect for human rights and the implementation of the convention on genocide. But I did not succeed. When I raised that question, people accused me, Hun Sen, of being the obstacle by raising the Pol Pot issue as an excuse not to accept the peace plan. That was what they said we tried to do. But when we conceded to the agreement, many countries began expressing concern over the Pol Pot issue. They want Pol Pot to be put on trial. If at that time, my proposal had been supported and added into that agreement, it would be possible to put Pol Pot on trial now. Of course, I want to implement the convention. This convention is not under the Paris agreement. It is independent. If others wanted to support it, I also agreed. However, we must look at the other side of the coin. The document put foward by the Big Five and that everybody accepted—moreover it was also an initiative of Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans—insisted that the Khmer Rouge be counted as a party among other parties to the agreement. Therefore, either we have to start negotiating again in order to expel the Polpotists and put them on trial or we have to implement the Paris agreement.

I just do not understand what a number of countries want really. When I proposed measures to prevent the genocidal Pol Pot clique, they said Hun Sen behaved like an obstacle to the political solution. Now when Hun Sen has agreed and everything has been signed, this question pops up. Some even worry that there might be a red solution. I do not even know what kind of red this is.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] Mister Prime Minister, I am confused. I am sympathetic with you in all that you have been through to the present. I am confused by the fact that former revolutionaries have become capitalists and former fighters adopted sons of a former monarch. My questions are: Are you in favor of establishing a monarchy in this country? What is the difference between the signed peace agreement and the alliance between you and Samdech Sihanouk's party?

[Hun Sen] In my opinion, there is nothing confusing about the first question. Our goal is to end the war and eliminate the poverty of the people. Therefore, the appropriate aspiration of our nation and people requires that those unlikely bed fellows live under the same roof. Samdech Sihanouk regards me as his son and I regard him as my father in the same important cause of dedicating ourselves to the interests of the nation. Concerning the transformation of revolutionaries into capitalists, I have this to say: Being a revolutionary does not mean that you have to be Marxist-Leninist only. It means anyone who wants changes. Let me tell you a story: I met with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Solomon in Paris for 4 hours and 40 minutes. He was full of praises and jubilant at the changes in Cambodia. However, he expressed one regret in that we had erased the word revolutionary. He said: When Your Excellency did not make a revolution you used the word revolutionary; now that you are truly making a revolution by accepting a multiparty system, you have dropped the word revolutionary. Therefore, Mr. Solomon fully understands the word revolutionary. It does not belong only to the Marxists.

On whether we support the reestablishment of a monarchy in Phnom Penh, I have this to say: Yesterday, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk made it very clear that he would not become king again. He said he would not wear the crown. He wanted to let the dancers wear it for their dances.

The other day, someone from the United States—I was not told who—formed a party professing support for the monarchy while the samdech who is a former monarch does not talk about his becoming king again. So, if the former monarch has not talked about his wanting to become king again, what is this party that has been formed to support him to become king if the samdech himself refuses to be king? This is clearly demagogy.

On the second question, I would like to confirm that there is no difference between the alliance between us and Prince Norodom Ranariddh and the Paris agreement. The question is in whether or not the political platforms of these two parties are in accordance with the agreement on the global solution. Now the CPP also has a policy that corresponds with the agreement. And Prince Norodom Ranariddh, FUNCINPEC leader, also has a political platform that corresponds to the agreement. Thus there is nothing that would be antagonistic toward the agreement and we will not use this cooperation against anyone in order to destroy the agreement and to avoid implementing it. On the contrary, the two parties are allied together to form the basis for implementing the agreement to prevent others from destroying it.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] Further to my question on the monarchy: This morning, reporters asked the samdech whether he would become king again. The samdech said if the three parties, including your excellency, propose this, maybe he will agree. What is your opinion if the Khmer Rouge support the idea?

[Hun Sen] For me, I speak for myself and not for the government and the party. I have no objection. I opposed Lon Nol because Lon Nol toppled the throne and because he brought American soldiers into Cambodia. Previously, I loved my former...[changes thought] my king, so if this is restored, I have no objection because I have also fought for the throne. It is because the throne was overthrown that I waged the struggle against those who overthrew the throne. But I would like to specify that these are Hun Sen's words.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] Because of the attempts against your life and because of such complications, how optimistic are you of the future? How optimistic are you that other parties will not cheat in the forthcoming elections?

[Hun Sen] There were many attempts against my life. I have already specified nine times. However, these had failed. I do not wear a bullet-proof vest. Many reporters had traveled with me to the provinces. I mixed with the people everywhere. Since 1979, I have traveled on motorcycles and bicycles over no less than 500 kilometers. Where a car cannot go, I had to go on bicycle and motorcycle to meet with my compatriots. I am very proud that my compatriots protect me. In Phnom Penh I have fewer guards than when I was in Bangkok. So far, I have not been harmed. But I am sure that those who have tried this will continue to do so because I am a dangerous man for them. I am not a dangerous man for the Cambodian people, but a dangerous man for those who attempt to destroy the Cambodian people. They may have realized that militarily, they cannot win against us. In the elections, they are worried about my influence. Therefore, they will certainly continue to seek ways to get rid of me.

However, I would like to state in advance that in Cambodia there is not just one Hun Sen; there are many Hun Sens. But I pray that I do not meet the same fate as His Excellency Rajiv Gandhi, my brother. I want to continue serving the people.

Concerning the elections. Now UNTAC is in charge of the elections. If UNTAC does not correctly and properly carry out the elections, it would mean that the United Nations is no longer important. The UNTAC itself controls the elections and counts the ballots. Thus if cheating occurs in the elections, what is the use of the United Nations? UN operations have never been as extensive as in Cambodia. This is the first time in the United Nations' history. I am optimistic and believe that the world body will not ruin its influence through ballot cheating. There should be justice for every party.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] This morning there were small demonstrations against the Khmer Rouge. Can you elaborate on these demonstrations?

[Hun Sen] The most visible aspects were the shouting of abuses and the demand for compensation in lives for those who have perished. Our people were understanding and respected the situation. When our officials begged them, the demonstrators returned home.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] Your government has handed back the former Chinese Embassy to China and recently Son Sann demanded the return of his house which is being occupied by Chea Sim. Now there seems to be some confusion. We wish to know about the policy on ownership of your government?

[Hun Sen] I would like to talk about this point. This issue is a very important one. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk has supported our policy on ownership of land and houses. The samdech yesterday said this solution is appropriate in view of the real situation. We have debated this policy over a period of time on how we should hand over ownership to the people—before 1970, 1975, or on the basis of the real and current situation. If we go back to ownership of 1970 or 1975, we have to evacuate the people all over the country again, because, as is known, Pol Pot, the Pol Pot regime, confiscated ownership and evacuated the people from one place to another. Cities were emptied. When people came back, they just moved into empty houses. What can we do to solve this? Where can we force them to go? As for the embassies of France, China, the Wat Phnum hotel, the SNC headquarters, and so on, these are places being occupied by the state. Therefore, it is very easy to return these properties. However, for houses which have become people's property, I do not want to touch them.

I argued with Son Sann on 24 October, one day after signing the agreement because Son Sann was not looking for a solution to the Cambodian problem. His real solution was one concerning houses. Due to his ignorant policy, I warned him at the SNC meeting in Paris, saying: Your excellency, go and try it yourself. But I would like to specify in advance that even if I, prime minister in power, let alone your excellency, chase people ouf of their houses, people will hack me to pieces. If your excellency chases them out, they will hack you to pieces.

Now, who is going to try to chase people out of the houses? If such a person is not hacked up or beaten up, I am willing to resign from the post of prime minister. In Beijing, I said to him not to raise this issue; it cannot be solved. He said Chea Sim stays in his house. Chea Sim is a Cambodian citizen who is also entitled to ownership. Today, he is the party chairman; tomorrow, the day after tomorrow, he could become an ordinary citizen. I am just saying this. Do not predict that Chea Sim will step down from the party chairmanship. I support this formula. Solving the issue his way is perhaps more reasonable.

We are understanding toward our compatriots who love their ancestral homes and want to get them back. However, the solution is not to chase people out of houses and drive them to sleeping on the ground. I do not support this way of doing things. There should be a compromise between the old and new owners. The previous owners could provide some money for the new owners to find new houses and new lands on the basis of compromise and not through force. The on-the-spot administration will facilitate the transfer of ownership.

I would like to specify that only Son Sann incessantly raises this house issue. Even though the Paris Conference on Cambodia cochairmen proposed finding a formula through the establishment of a fund with the assistance of the co-signers of the Paris conference to help solve the issue of housing and land, Son Sann was still not satisfied. This is why I say that for Son Sann, it is not a solution to end the war and achieve national reconciliation; it is a housing issue. He thinks only of his own business. I would like my words to reach Son Sann; please do not insult me because I must speak the truth.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] Prime Minister, refugees will be provided shelters and other things. Most of the refugees are from Battambang and Siem Reap Provinces. What is the arrangement with the Thai Government so that these refugees can return and have shelter?

[Hun Sen] This issue has been planned by the SNC, the royal Thai Government, and the HCR [UN High Commissioner for Refugees]. On 20 November, this will be signed by the Thai foreign minister, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, and the HCR's representative. This is an immense task but not one that exceeds our capability.

[Question in Engliash with Cambodian translation] What are your government's preparations to accommodate the refugees?

[Hun Sen] We have planned for three years by looking for areas with land and assessing the number of family members that can be accommodated. We cannot take refugees to densely populated areas. We have to prepare land where crops can be grown and where there are jobs. We have made preparations to accept medical staff as well as teachers; they can carry out their work in places appropriate for them.

[Question in English with Cambodian translation] I would like to know the statistics on ethnic minorities in Cambodia, particularly the number of Vietnamese residents who have come and lived in Cambodia since 1979. Second question on the naturalization of Vietnamese residents. Is this true? Thirdly, I have heard that there are many armed Vietnamese residents in villages and rural areas. Is this true or not?

[Hun Sen] I would like to inform you that Vietnamese residents in the country before 1970 under Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's rule numbered from 400,000 to 500,000. They were mostly rubber plantation workers; some lived along the Mekong River and the Tonle Sap. Under Lon Nol's repression, a number of them fled to Vietnam. Under Pol Pot's repression, some fled to Vietnam along with a number of Cambodians.

According to the 1987 statistics, there were 130,000. Thus, compared to the 500,000 residents in 1970, it is very different. Following the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, a number of Vietnamese residents, afraid that Pol Pot might be back, returned to Vietnam. There are now over 90,000 Vietnamese residents in Cambodia. As for granting nationality to foreign residents, including Chinese and Vietnamese, so far none of them have been naturalized. And we still do not have a law concerning naturalization.

On the presence of Vietnamese residents in villages and communes, I propose that you, ladies and gentlemen, go and see for yourselves. Then it should be easier to discuss.

The day before yesterday at the Site 2 camp along the Cambodian-Thai border, Son Sann said that there are still over a million illegal Vietnamese residents in Cambodia. Sometimes he says there are 200,000 in Phnom Penh. He said Vietnamese men marry Cambodian women and Vietnamese women marry Cambodian men. I said to him: If this is so, your excellency's relatives must have also married Vietnamese women and men, because a million couples are a lot.

Thus, to avoid difficulties, please stay in Cambodia. If you have problems with money, I can feed up to about five or ten journalists for about two or three months. Go and find out for yourselves. According to Son Sann, he told the samdech, when he comes, to just count the people and get them to talk. Those with a Vietnamese accent should be sent back to Vietnam. I have to say that if this is to be done, Son Sann would be the first to be sent back to Vietnam because his accent is completely Vietnamese. He cannot speak Cambodian clearly. It is a pity that you do not know the Khmer language. If you understand Khmer, it would be great listening to Son Sann speaking unclear Cambodian.

I would like to tell you an anecdote. Before the Paris conference, there was a meeting at La Celle-Saint-Cloud, at the French Foreign Ministry office. Son Sann said: Chen Min Ruot Te Aek Odam, Chen Min Ruot Te [Hun Sen imitates the way Son Sann said this, which translated means: The Chinese will not flee. Spoken properly in Cambodian, it means: There is no way out your excellency, there is no way out.] I did not understand him. I thought he said: The Chinese will not flee. However, in real Cambodian, it is Chenh Min Ruoch [There is no way out]. He cannot even speak Cambodian clearly and yet maintains that those who don't and who speak with a Vietnamese accent should be sent to Vietnam. He will be the first one sent.

One day he said: Som Aoy Vietnam Dak Kangtoap Chen Pi Kampuchea [Hun Sen imitates the way Son Sann said this, which translated means: Vietnam is being asked to withdraw Chinese troops from Cambodia. Son Sann's intended meaning was: Vietnam is being asked to withdraw troops from Cambodia]. I did not understand him. He used the word Chen [Chinese] for Chenh [go out; from]. Thus, he called on Vietnam to withdraw Chinese troops from Cambodia, when what he wanted to say was Vietnam is being asked to withdraw troops from Cambodia. Today it seems that I have waged a serious war of words with Son Sann; therefore, Son Sann, please forgive me if you hear this. All this has been created by you. I have to expose it to avoid any misunderstanding.

I ask that we end this.

Sihanouk Wants Five-Year Presidential Term

BK1711123291 Hong Kong AFP in English 1227 GMT 17 Nov 91

[by Sheri Prasso]

[Text] Kompong Kantout, Cambodia, Nov 17 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk launched Sunday his campaign for an election more than a year away, on his first trip to the Cambodian countryside since his return from exile.

"Please elect the prince in 1993," he told 270 orphans and village officials at a government-run center about 30 kilometers (19 miles) southwest of Phnom Penh.

"If you want me to be the shade of the people, please elect me," the prince said, invoking the Cambodian religious theme of the Buddha always being sheltered from the sun.

Prince Sihanouk—who returned from 13 years in exile last week to lead Cambodia's interim authority—said he would like to have a five-year term as president.

"If when I'm finished, the people still like me, I can continue for five years more," he said before taking five 100 U.S. dollar bills from his pocket and donating them to the orphanage.

He also announced that Prime Minister Hun Sen's government would give six million riels (5,400 dollars) to be divided among the children and teachers, 1,050 packages of pineapple candies and six large bags of canned pickled mustard leaves in brine—along with clothes and blankets.

On a tour of the orphanage, Prince Sihanouk peeped into classrooms and sewing centers.

"It's the prince," gasped one 13-year-old boy struck shy by Sihanouk's caress on the chin as he circled through the desks and stopped to chat with the children.

Touring their living quarters and seeing that the orphans slept on bare wooden plank beds, Prince Sihanouk turned to his aides.

"Send 500 straw sleeping mats immediately," he commanded.

Thousands of people had lined the cratered and rocky road on the route out of the city, waving flags supplied by the district administration and cheering wildly as he passed.

"He looked out of the window of the car to see me," said one cheering supporter, 47-year-old Dang Dorn, who makes his living picking coconuts from the palm trees between the rice paddies in Cambodia's countryside.

"I'm very, very happy because I missed him and I love him very much," he said.

Although the district administration told him to stand along the road, he said, nothing could have kept him away.

"I certainly would have come anyway," he said.

Prince Sihanouk also stopped along the route to pray at a golden Buddha placed in the middle of a traffic circle, but he did not head into the crowds to meet the people, who were kept away with police cordons.

On Saturday, thousands of people stormed police lines screaming "Lord Papa, wait, show us your face," as the prince descended in to the crowd around his Royal Palace.

Sihanouk Receives Thai Ambassador 17 Nov

BK1811063091 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0504 GMT 18 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK November 18—Thai ambassador to the Supreme National Council [SNC] Mr. Sunai presented his credential letter to the SNC Chairman Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Phnom Penh Sunday evening.

Mr. Sunai, who had been accredited to Hong Kong, Hanoi and Paris, was the third ambassador having presented his credential letters to the prince.

The first and the second ones were the French and Australian ambassadors respectively.

At the reception, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who arrived in Phom Penh on November 14 from Beijing, expressed his deepest gratitude to His Majesty the king of Thailand, the Thai people and government for their contribution towards the settlement of the Cambodian problem.

The prince said he would not forget what Thailand had done for more than 350,000 Cambodian refugees taking shelter in Thailand.

Sihanouk: Suchinda Knows How To Catch Pol Pot

BK1711014491 Bangkok THE NATION in English 17 Nov 91 p A1, A2

[by Kawi Chongkithawon in Phnom Penh]

[Text] Prince Norodom Sihanouk said Gen Suchinda Khraprayun would know how to catch elusive Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot.

Sihanouk said that Suchinda had informed him that he had met with Pol Pot, responsible for the deaths of over one million Cambodians, and added that the Thai general knew how "to negotiate with Pol Pot".

"I met with Pol Pot. We had a nice conversation. And he is in perfect health," Sihanouk quoted Suchinda as saying.

The prince, in a 180-minute press conference here, said anyone who wished to catch Pol Pot would have to talk to Suchinda, who could say "yes or no", as the Thai army chief knew where Pol Pot's sanctuary was.

Suchinda met with Pol Pot prior to the June peace talks on Cambodia in Phatthaya. The Thai general reportedly urged the Khmer Rouge leader to cooperate in the peace process to end the 13-year-old Cambodian war. Suchinda is also one of the leaders of the National Peacekeeping Council and tipped by many as the next Thai prime minister.

Recently, he said that since Thailand had to bear the burden of Cambodian refugees along the Thai-Cambodian border, it must be allocated 60 per cent of the reconstruction effort in Cambodia.

Pol Pot, Sihanouk said, had two headquarters—one in the Dong Rak mountain chain and the other in the stretch of land straddling Thailand's Trat province and Cambodia's Koh Kong.

The prince also said, tongue-in-cheek, that U.S. five-star General Norman Schwarzkopf, who defeated Iraq in the Gulf War, should be asked to attack Pol Pot's headquarters.

In his first press conference after ending a 13-year exile on Thursday, Sihanouk made several references about Thailand and delivered anecdotes on the former prime minister Chatchai Chunhawan and his son Kraisat, and Thailand's economic development.

He said Chatchai had called him "His Majesty" and tried to persuade him to become the king of Cambodia once again "because Thailand wants a neighbour with a king". Sihanouk said he would become the monarch of Cambodia if a consensus on the matter is arrived at by Prime Minister Hun Sen, Son Sann, the leader of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, and the Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan.

During a dinner reception at Chatchai's Bangkok residence at the end of last year, he said Chatchai's son Kraisak, whom he nicknamed "Thailand's Clark Gable", sang revolutionary songs, which he found amusing because the prince considered himself a real revolutionary. "He makes revolutions in Bangkok, which is sweeter. But I am the Red Prince. I make revolutions in China and North Korea, which is tougher," he added with a smile.

Employing his usual wit and candour, he said Cambodia would definitely follow Thailand's model of development which had brought economic prosperity along with bars, nightclubs and massage parlours. "We should not criticize the good life. In Thailand and Cambodia, we are the same."

Sihanouk said former foreign minister Sitthi Sawetsila, along with the Asean countries, had pressured him into accepting the leadership of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea in 1989. Sitthi in an interview with THE NATION last month said he had persuaded Sihanouk to accept the leadership role when he met the prince in Paris.

Sihanouk also made the following points in his Phnom Penh press conference:

—The five permanent members of the UN Security Council had allowed the Khmer Rouge to participate in the Supreme National Council, which he now thinks should be rescinded. "I would not object to a new Perm Five plan without the Khmer Rouge."

- Sihanouk confirmed that Hun Sen and Prince Ranariddh, his son, are forming a political alliance for the upcoming election and predicted that they would form the next government.

—The prince praised the Phnom Penh government's achievements and predicted that the Pracheachon Party would win a majority. He credited Hun Sen with the peace settlement in Cambodia.

—He said he will visit Vietnam and Laos next month to sign a treaty for peaceful coexistence.

—He is confident that the Khmer Rouge and the Khmer People's National Liberation Front would raise the border issue with Vietnam.

—He lives on the US$300,000 a year allowance from China, which that country pledged to provide until his death.
—There is no agenda for the next SNC meeting in Phnom Penh.
—He said Japan's role is very important in the reconstruction of Cambodia.

Phnom Penh Urges Tokyo To Upgrade Relations

OW1811115891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1144 GMT 18 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov. 18 KYODO—Foreign Minister Hor Namhong of the Phnom Penh government urged Japan on Monday to upgrade the status of its Cambodian envoy to an ambassadorial level soon.

He made the request during a 30-minute meeting with Yukio Imagawa, permanent representative to the interim Supreme National Council (SNC) that represents Cambodia's four rival factions pending free elections.

Imagawa told Hor Namhong, an SNC member, it is "extremely difficult" to meet the request until an elected government is formed, the envoy told reporters following the meeting.

The foreign minister expressed hope the day will come soon when the two sides exchange ambassadors, said Imagawa, Japan's first permanent Cambodian envoy in 16 years.

Hor Namhong also called on Japan to make good its earlier pledge to help the war-ravaged country rebuild itself, adding Cambodia wants Tokyo to play the most important role in assisting reconstruction, Imagawa said.

The envoy told him Japan wants to step up the exchange of youth as well as senior government officials between the two countries to improve Cambodia's technological level, Imagawa added.

Paper Interviews Hun Sen on Developments 18 Nov

PM2011120091 Paris LE MONDE in French 20 Nov 91 p 8

[Interview with Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen by Jean-Claude Pomonti on 18 November in Phnom Penh]

[Text] Phnom Penh—[Pomonti] Since the prince's return to Phnom Penh on 14 November, the impression is that the "national reconciliation" is taking place primarily between the prince and you.

[Hun Sen] Such an assessment is very much mistaken. We want the cooperation of all parties in achieving national reconciliation. Our bilateral cooperation does not exclude anyone. Its aim is to implement the Paris agreement. Our program is in line with this agreement. So, it would be better to welcome our cooperation. True, in the past few days we have given priority to welcoming Prince Sihanouk. We are welcoming him both as chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] and as father of the nation, so nobody should oppose this welcome.

Envious people say that I display partiality toward the prince. But the prince is not in the opposition. Of course, we have a different way of receiving opposition parties. If I were to do more, people could accuse me of using state funds for a bad cause. I will not give them ammunition; people would not understand it. Moreover, they supported the prince in the past and should rejoice at the way we are welcoming him.

[Pomonti] Does your understanding with Prince Sihanouk date back to your June meeting in Jakarta, which marks the start of real negotiations?

[Hun Sen] That is not entirely accurate. Back at our first meeting in 1987, we established personal ties of trust, even though we did not achieve a great deal at that time. The time was ripe in June 1991. After that date, our mutual understanding was the catalyst, the driving force behind all solutions. Without this understanding, nothing could have been achieved.

[Pomonti] What is left of the special ties with Vietnam, of your cooperation and friendship treaty with Hanoi and the conference of Indochinese peoples?

[Hun Sen] Relations between Cambodia and Vietnam are based on mutual interest. They continue on that basis. We opted for "permanent neutrality" and signed the Paris agreement. Anything that is contrary to our neutrality and to that agreement must be considered invalid. Of course, we no longer receive military assistance from Vietnam.

As far as the cooperation and friendship treaty is concerned, we are examining what is consistent or in conflict with our neutrality and with the provisions of that agreement. Some aspects can be kept if they are amended. As for the conference of foreign ministers of the Indochinese peoples, it has not met for some years. It will be up to the SNC and the future government to decide whether or not to convene such conferences.

As a general rule, we want good relations with all countries. Without good relations with our neighbors, there can be no peace. This is the position not only of my party and my government, but also of the prince, whom I will accompany in December to Laos and Vietnam on his first official visits abroad.

[Pomonti] Do you not have the impression that the peace plan is being implemented slowly?

[Hun Sen] As far as the establishment of the SNC is concerned, our adversaries have had a great deal of money available for killing people, and now they can use these funds to make it work. I am willing to pay half the costs. But, do not forget that all the costs incurred by the SNC's guests already are borne by our Foreign Ministry. With regard to the arrival of the United Nations, I have been too busy recently with welcoming the prince to really keep track of it. I believe that they already have achieved quite a lot.

[Pomonti] Do you think that the repatriation of refugees and the return of displaced persons could take place before the next rainy season, in May 1992?

[Hun Sen] I am very concerned. The preparation of reception structures has not yet started. Perhaps some of the refugees can be repatriated before the rainy season.

[Pomonti] What are the prospects of demobilizing 70 percent of the present forces?

[Hun Sen] It is a serious problem for the United Nations. This operation should start during the dry season. We have a cease-fire, and we must not allow things to drag on.

[Pomonti] Are you worried by the increase in banditry?

[Hun Sen] For our part, we have planned the rehabilitation of our demobilized men—into civilian life, jobs, and families. But there will be a problem with Pol Pot's troops, who will not be able to reintegrate themselves into society because of the crimes that they have committed. I would like to add that if an attempt is made to reduce our police force, this will be much more serious.

[Pomonti] What is your assessment of the Khmer Rouge forces?

[Hun Sen] They are fewer in number than in September 1989, at the time of the Vietnamese military withdrawal. Previously, there were 18,000-22,000 Khmer Rouges capable of fighting. At the time of the cease-fire in May 1991, however, there were only 13,000-15,000 of them.

[Pomonti] To put it another way, do they still pose a serious threat?

[Hun Sen] There will be no problem if they demobilize 70 percent of their personnel. But they will not do it. They will conceal both men and weapons. The principal Khmer Rouge leaders must present themselves to the international community. If they remain in hiding, they will do so with their troops. A commander cannot hide without his troops. The United Nations must order all the Khmer Rouge leaders to come out. If they do not do so, the United Nations cannot claim to have succeeded in detecting all the Khmer Rouge forces. Where is Pol Pot? The United Nations must answer this question. If he has sought refuge abroad, then let it be known. If he is in Cambodia, let him show himself.

[Pomonti] Deprived of their leadership, will the Khmer Rouge pose a serious problem?

[Hun Sen] If the dozen or so leaders are neutralized, the movement's influence will be reduced considerably. By excluding them, this poison can be neutralized. Pol Pot is still in charge. Without him, his forces will disintegrate. As for Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, I will not champion them. But they are members of the SNC, and we must honor the agreement that we signed.

[Pomonti] What importance do you attach to the visit by French Foreign Minister Dumas?

[Hun Sen] I do not make a point of welcoming foreign ministers, but I will be at the airport to meet Mr. Dumas. I will be there with the approval of Prince Sihanouk, who asked me to do so in writing. It is a very important visit. We will grant him a special welcome both as minister and as cochairman of the Paris conference.

Sihanouk Reinstated as Legitimate Head of State

BK2011053591 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 20 Nov 91

["Statement of the Cambodian People's Party and State of Cambodia Government" dated 19 November—read by announcer]

[Text] The reactionary coup d'etat staged by the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique on 18 March 1970 which deposed Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, legal and legitimate head of the State of Cambodia [SOC] and father of the Cambodian nation, and toppled the throne was an illegal coup d'etat running totally counter to the Constitution and the aspirations of the entire Cambodian nation and people.

The acts committed by the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique in using military force to seize power, dissolve the Constitution, and persecute Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, such as by sentencing him to death, withdrawing his Cambodian nationality, confiscating his property, cracking down on the royal family and those who supported the samdech—the sole great leader of the nation—not only caused the Cambodian nation to lose its esteemed and beloved father, but also served as the main cause for the tragedy experienced by the Cambodian nation and people over the past more than two decades.

The Cambodian People's Party [CPP]—a political party which formerly opposed the illegal coup d'etat and followed Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk's line of struggle to liberate the nation from the traitors, the party that represents the will of the Cambodian people and is professing domestic and foreign policies in line with the Sangkum Reas Niyum led by Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk—and the SOC Government wish to solemnly declare to the Cambodian compatriots inside and outside the country and the international community that Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk remains the legal and legitimate head of state of Cambodia as he was before the coup d'etat of 18 March 1970. The reactionary and illegal coup d'etat staged by the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique cannot abolish this legitimacy. On the contrary, all the activities of the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique are crimes against the aspirations of the Cambodian nation and people, such crimes that have resulted in countless tragedies for the Cambodian nation.

Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk's legal and legitimate position of head of state will remain in effect from the present time until the holding of the free, correct, and fair elections in 1993 to elect a new Cambodian president.

The honor and dignity as the father of the Cambodian nation will be forever preserved by the CPP, SOC Government, and Cambodian people.

The CPP and the SOC Government pledge to do everything possible to create facilities for Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk in his capacity as the legal and legitimate head of state of Cambodia and as the chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] to successfully carry out his royal mission for national reconciliation and construction.

The CPP and the SOC Government appeal to all Cambodian compatriots to support and vote for Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk in order to elect him as Cambodian president, thus making the country a safe haven for our compatriots, his children, forever.

Long Live Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia and father of the Cambodian nation!

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 19 November 1991

Sihanouk Meets With U.S. Representative 19 Nov

BK2011052191 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0419 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK November 20—Prince Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the National Council of Cambodia [title as received], said here Tuesday that U.S. President George Bush would be no problem with him.

In a meeting with with Charles Twining, special representative of the U.S. State Department, the prince said the United States might play an important role in Cambodia.

Mr. Charles Twining, director of the Indochina Office of the U.S. State Department, has been appointed chief of the U.S. mission to the SNC.

"I wish the United States would avoid something like the happening in 1970 when President Nixon and his adviser Kissinger supported Lon Nol against Sihanouk," said the SNC chairman.

The prince, who returned here on November 14 after more than a decade in exile, said when the U.S. decided to build the Cambodia- America friendship highway from Phnom Penh to Kompong Som City, he invited America to take care of the work, and that any aid to Cambodia should go directly to the peasants.

Cambodia-U.S. relations have been cut off for 16 years since the pro-U.S. regime of Lon Nol was toppled by the Khmer Rouge in 1975.

Hor Namhong Terms Sihanouk 'Super-President'

BK2011135091 Hong Kong AFP in English 1216 GMT 20 Nov 91

[By Sheri Prasso]

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov 20 (AFP)—Phnom Penh's new alliance with its old enemy Prince Norodom Sihanouk took another step forward Wednesday as the government declared it recognized the former monarch as the "super-president" of Cambodia.

"From now on we are recognizing Prince Sihanouk as head of Cambodia, of all Cambodia," Phnom Penh Foreign Minister Hor Namhong announced at a press conference.

Diplomats and Western observers here said the emerging alliance—despite Prince Sihanouk's neutrality as head of the Supreme National Council (SNC)—intends to keep the Khmer Rouge out of an already-signed peace settlement.

"Their objective is so that ... when the United Nations comes it will have one purpose only: to fight the Khmer Rouge," not implement the peace treaty, one of the observers said.

Prince Sihanouk, addressing thousands at the first day of Cambodia's sacred water festival, thanked the Phnom Penh Government for the honor.

"Justice has been served ... I am the father of Cambodia again as I was before," he declared.

The Phnom Penh Government already has a head of state, albeit a powerless one.

President Heng Samrin was dumped from his party leadership post last month and has had typhoid, preventing him from making public appearances, according to the government.

He will keep his title as president, Hor Namhong said, without specifying if any of his former powers remain or ruling out the possiblity of his resignation.

Heng Samrin appeared in public Wednesday for the first time since Sihanouk's return, seated at the right of the prince during the water festival.

The power in Phnom Penh politics lies with Prime Minister Hun Sen and ruling party president Chea Sim, who is also chairman of the National Assembly.

The declaration means Phnom Penh recognizes Prince Sihanouk as a super-president over the Phnom Penh Government and the other factions that fought to oust it for nearly 13 years.

The other factions had not been consulted, Hor Namhong said.

The foreign minister said Prince Sihanouk has, in fact, always been president of Cambodia—even when he was leading the opposition in the civil war, and even when someone else held the title.

"The People's Party of Cambodia ... wishes to solemnly declare to our compatriots both inside the country and abroad and to the international community that (Prince) Norodom Sihanouk has always remained the absolutely legal and legitimate head of the state of Cambodia," he said in a declaration.

Prince Sihanouk was deposed in a U.S.-backed coup in 1970. But because the coup was "illegal and anti-constitutional," Sihanouk's legal status has always remained intact, Hor Namhong said.

"The reactionary and illegal coup mounted by (Lon Nol) could not invalidate this legitimacy," he said.

He did not address a short period during the Khmer Rouge regime from 1975 to 1979 when Prince Sihanouk was also head of state.

The prince fled in 1979 ahead of invading Vietnamese troops, which then ousted the Khmer Rouge and installed the Phnom Penh Government.

He allied with the Khmer Rouge again in 1982 to lead the opposition against the Phnom Penh Government in a civil war, which officially ended in a peace treaty signed last month in Paris.

The treaty makes Prince Sihanouk the neutral chairman of the SNC, the symbol of Cambodia's sovereignty while it is under UN supervision.

He returned from exile last week to take up his position.

"We haven't yet elaborated the terms of power for the head of Cambodia ... but for the time being, Sihanouk in his capacity as the chairman of the SNC will do his job according to the agreement signed in Paris on October 23," Hor Namhong said.

Cambodia's elections are scheduled for 1993, and this government has urged the public many times to vote for Sihanouk in the presidential polls.

The new alliance began to emerge on the day after Prince Sihanouk's arrival last Thursday.

Since, he has constantly applauded the achievements of the Phnom Penh Government during his absence, referring to Hun Sen and Chea Sim as his "sons."

Prince Sihanouk also announced a political alliance between the party of his son, which he used to lead himself, and that of the Hun Sen government.

He has said that if the United Nations wants to negotiate a new peace treaty excluding the Khmer Rouge, he would not be opposed.

Hor Namhong Says Qian Qichen To Visit 5-6 Dec

BK2011095891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0726 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov 19 (AFP)—Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen will travel to Cambodia on December 5 for a two-day stay, his Cambodian counterpart Hor Namhong announced Tuesday.

It will be the first visit here by a Chinese official since 1979, when Vietnam ousted the Beijing-backed Khmer Rouge.

During a visit to a hospital on Monday, Prince Norodom Sihanouk—who returned home last week after spending much of his 13 years in exile in China—announced that Beijing would provide development aid to Cambodia.

Son Sann Postpones Trip to Phnom Penh

BK1911090391 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] In a press communique issued yesterday, 18 November, the office of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] president and member of the Supreme National Council [SNC] said that His Excellency Son Sann who is scheduled to make a trip to Phnom Penh on 19 November together with Ieng Mouli, KPNLF secretary general and SNC member, has decided to postpone his trip for a short period of time because he has not yet found an accommodation.

Also in this communique, H.E. Son Sann appealed for respect for and full implementation of the Paris agreement on Cambodia. H.E. Son Sann expressed his confidence in the success of national reconciliation, saying that he had supported this national reconciliation idea since 1963 and reiterated this support in the 1970's because he regarded this matter as the essential factor for social and political stability in Cambodia. Moreover, it is an essential factor for the coming free and correct election in Cambodia to be organized by the United Nations as well as for the development of Cambodia.

H.E. Son Sann said that only the majority of Cambodian people can decide which Cambodian faction should be elected and which one should be condemned.

Also in this communique, the KPNLF said that it is ready to cooperate with any Cambodian factions which respect and believe in democratic principles and Buddhism, and wish for Cambodia to enjoy national independence so that it can enhance long-standing peace, unity, territorial integrity, progress, social justice, and respect for human rights in Cambodia.

Hun Sen Pays 'Courtesy Visit' to Son Sen

BK1911102691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0805 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov 19 (AFP)—Resistance faction leader Son Sann postponed his scheduled Tuesday return here, but while officials had not been informed a spokesman for his movement later said in Bangkok that he would arrive Thursday.

Phnom Penh authorities are also without word of Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan, the other Supreme National Council (SNC) member still missing from the capital, Foreign Minister Hor Namhong told AFP.

Son Sann, the head of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), had complained Monday that he and the group's other representative on the SNC, Ieng Mouli, were forced to delay their return because of a lack of accommodation.

But the KPNLF spokesman said Tuesday in the Thai capital that he had received word from SNC Chairman Prince Sihanouk, saying accommodation and a car had been arranged for them.

"If there is space for an office, then we'll go," the spokesman said.

According to diplomatic sources, Son Sann was angered by the fact that his former house in Phnom Penh is now occupied by Chea Sim, chairman of Cambodia's communist party.

Son Sann fled the house and Cambodia when the Khmer Rouge took power and has frequently said that he wants to have his home returned to him.

Meanwhile, Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen paid a 30-minute "courtesy visit" to Khmer Rouge official Son Sen to discuss arrangements for Khieu Samphan's arrival, one of the premier's aides said Tuesday.

He offered no details of the meeting, which came two days after Son Sen became the first Khmer Rouge leader to return since Vietnamese troops drove the genocidal faction from power in Phnom Penh in 1979.

The leader of the third resistance faction, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, returned here last week along with his father, Prince Sihanouk.

Son Sann's non-communist faction, weakened by internal divisions, is the smallest of the three parties in a resistance coalition dominated militarily by the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge.

A former prime minister and central bank governor, Son Sann has repeatedly asked the Phnom Penh Government to return the villa where he lived until the early 1970s—now inhabited by ruling party President Chea Sim. The government has refused, sticking to the law it passed two years ago giving ownership of houses to their current inhabitants.

"Son Sann does not want to find a solution to the Cambodian problem, he only wants to find a solution to his housing problem," Hun Sen said Sunday.

The SNC is a reconciliation body grouping the leaders of the Vietnamese-installed Phnom Penh Government and the three resistance factions.

Under a peace treaty signed October 23, the SNC is supposed to meet in Phnom Penh to represent Cambodian sovereignty and advise United Nations officials arriving here to steer the country through general elections in 1993.

Prince Sihanouk appealed Tuesday for foreign countries to donate aid to Cambodia for distribution by the Phnom Penh Government.

"The Hun Sen regime want to rebuild Cambodia to be like in the time of Ankgor," when the ancient Khmer empire was at its peak, the prince said.

"Now with help from Sihanouk the international community will decide to aid Cambodia."

Prince Sihanouk, former head of the resistance, has uttered only praise for the Vietnamese-installed Phnom Penh Government since returning here last week after 13 years in exile.

"I am not here to make politics, to interfere with this government. I am here to help them rebuild Cambodia," he said after visiting an exhibition full of colorful charts and photos boasting of the government's economic and social achievements since 1979.

"I want the United Nations to give aid to the Hun Sen government, and the Hun Sen government will give it directly to the people."

The prince visited the exhibit arm-in-arm with former foe Chea Sim. The Phnom Penh Government controls about 80 percent of Cambodia, though its influence is diluted by the Khmer Rouge in many remote areas.

KPNLF Urges Close Cooperation With UN

BK2011064191 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] The Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] announced that His Excellency Son Sann, president of the KPNLF and member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC], is due to arrive in Phnom Penh tomorrow, 21 November, to work within the framework of the SNC in accordance with the 23 October 1991 agreement.

In a news communique issued on Wednesday, the KPNLF also appeals to all Cambodian parties to closely cooperate with the United Nations to fully implement the Paris agreement. This communique also says the KPNLF will abide by the Paris agreement in order to ensure a durable peace, national independence, territorial integrity, neutrality, and the progress of the Cambodian people within the framework of the SNC, which is the only legitimate organization and the sole source of power in Cambodia in the transitional period during which Cambodia should have sovereignty, national independence, and unity.

On his trip to Phnom Penh tomorrow, His Excellency Son Sann will be accompanied by his wife; Ieng Muli, general secretary of the KPNLF Executive Committee and member of the Cambodian SNC; Son Soubert, delegate of the KPNLF Executive Committee in charge of foreign affairs; General Chum Chheang, delegate of the KPNLF Executive Committee in charge of the Interior Ministry; General Sangva de Lopez, adviser to the KPNLF president on security; Pol Ham, delegate of the KPNLF Executive Committee in charge of the Information Ministry; and four assistants of SNC members.

Adherence to Great National Union Policy Urged

BK1711033591 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 16 Nov 91

[Station article: "Ray of Peace and Independence Has Already Shone on the Land of Angkor"]

[Text] On 14 November 1991, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia, returned to Phnom Penh to implement an accord to close the books on the nearly-13-year Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia. This constitutes another grand and important success over the Vietnamese war of invasion of the Cambodian nation and people and of the SNC headed by the samdech. The warmest welcome accorded by Buddhist monks, people—young and old, male and female alike—officials, Cambodian military and police personnel, ethnic groups, and foreign residents in Phnom Penh and everywhere throughout the country clearly demonstrates that:

1. The entire Cambodian nation and people ardently crave for great national union and peace within an independent and sovereign Cambodia;

2. The four Cambodian factions also intensely desire the great national union and peace within an independent and sovereign Cambodia; and

3. The world and the United Nations want to see Cambodia having concord, peace, independence, and sovereignty as well.

As such, all of us, the Cambodians in the interior of the country and overseas, should constantly and painstakingly ahdere to a great national union policy and enhance a compact united national force in order to efficiently implement the accord to end the Vietnamese war of aggression, thereby restoring peace and independence and building our nation and country toward prosperity and glory.

Let bygones be bygones. We should, at present and in the future, concentrate on joining forces to effectively and correctly implement the peace accord for ending the Vietnamese war of aggression. There is no war among the Cambodians. The world is very well aware that it was Vietnam that waged the war of invasion against Cambodia for the purpose of incorporating the country into its Indochinese federation. Therefore, the Cambodians, under the leadership of the SNC chaired by Samdech Sihanouk, need to be unified, compromise, and reconcile with each other. We should neither nurse a grudge against nor intend to eliminate one another. There is only one Cambodia with steadfast great national union striving to adequately and correctly put into application the accord to do away with the Vietnamese war of aggression, allowing Cambodia to regain peace, independence, and sovereignty. We, Cambodians, should promote the great national union with the aim of defending and rebuilding the country under the leadership of a national government led by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk.

Nation's Survival 'Depends' on All Cambodians

BK1911031091 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 18 Nov 91

[Station "article": "Our Nation Will Live or Die; It Depends on All of Us, the Cambodians"]

[Text] The Paris agreement puts an end to the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia. The Cambodian nation, people, four-party Supreme National Council [SNC] headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, and friendly countries near and far are striving to implement the Cambodian peace agreement effectively and correctly.

But, the enemies, old and new, are striving arduously, to sow discord among Cambodians by digging into the past and inciting quarrels in order to prevent them from effectively and correctly implementing the agreement to end the Vietnamese war of aggression.

We all, Cambodians, will absolutely not fall for the enemies' subversive tricks.

Whether the agreement to end the war will be carried out successfully or not, it does not depend on the enemies. It depends only on all of us, the Cambodians, who are the owners of the land and seas, and of our own national destiny.

Our four Cambodian factions and all Cambodians inside or outside the country fervently want peace and happiness. We earnestly desire to achieve great national union, national reconciliation, and national unification. This is why we have arduously strived to jointly implement the peace agreement effectively and correctly by letting bygones be bygones and thinking only about the present and future so that our Cambodia can enjoy independence and sovereignty and can survive, and our Cambodian race can last foreve .

Therefore, whether our nation will live or die and whether our race will survive or vanish completely, it all depends on all of us, Cambodians, and not on the enemies.

Indonesia

'Reprisals' by Soldiers in East Timor Claimed

BK1711072891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0345 GMT 17 Nov 91

[Text] Sydney, Nov 17 (AFP)—Squads of Indonesian soldiers are roaming the streets of Dili, bashing people arbitrarily in the wake of last week's massacre, an East Timorese separatist group claimed here Sunday.

Campaign for an Independent East Timor spokesman Andy Alcock told reporters: "There seems to be reprisals."

Alcock said his information came from East Timorese in Australia with relatives in the troubled province, whom he declined to identify.

"We have not heard of extra killings, but we have heard of people who have been apprehended in the streets," Alcock said.

"They are bashed very severely by the military... just because they are considered suspicious by the officers concerned," he said.

Alcock said many people were scared to go outside because "the repression is still very great."

He claimed the soldiers carried water in their vehicles "to wash away blood."

Timor Governor Denies Reports of Second Massacre

BK2011114091 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 20 Nov 91

[From the "International Report" program]

[Excerpts] The governor of the Indonesian Province of East Timor, Mario Carrascalao, is meeting central Indonesian Government officials in Jakarta today to push for a full inquiry into the Dili shootings. In an interview with Australia's SBS Radio, Governor Carrascaloa confirmed ealier reports he will resign if the Indonesian Government fails to investigate properly the massacre in which officials concede 19 people died, but in which others say over 100 lives were lost. [passage omitted]

The governor's call follows moves by the Indonesian Government to form a special commission to inquire into the massacre and make its findings public. Governor Carrascaloa said those involved in the shootings at the Santa Cruz Cemetery last Tuesday must be identified and punished.

The governor says most of the 3,000 Timorese at the cemetery were innocent people mourning a student who had been killed in clashes between pro- and Indonesian activists [sentence as heard]. Governor Carrascaloa was near the scene of the massacre when the shootings began. [passage omitted]

The governor, who is an East Timorese appointed by Jakarta, but with no control over the military, says troops should have controlled the crowd before it reached the cemetery. [passage omitted]

Governor Carrascaloa denies reports of a second massacre in Dili last Friday saying that some Indonesian anti-Indonesian activists are trying to confuse the facts. The military admits responsibility for the killings, which had provoked an international outcry. [passage omitted]

Says Life in Dili Back to Normal

BK2011145791 Jakarta ANTARA in Indonesian 1233 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Jakarta, 20 Nov (ANTARA)—"People living in East Timor are no longer gripped by fear after the 12 November incident and life has now returned to normal in Dili," Home Affairs Minister Rudini quoted East Timor Governor Mario Viegas Carrascalao as saying. The meeting between the home affairs minister and the East Timor governor, originally scheduled to take place at the Home Affairs Department this afternoon, was cancelled because the two had met earlier in the morning at the General Elections Secretariat at Imam Bonjol Road in Jakarta. "I met the governor at 1030 so there is no need for him to see me again," Rudini said to reporters who had been waiting for him since 0730.

During the meeting, the home affairs minister asked many questions on the situation in East Timor, especially in Dili. The governor pointed that life has returned to normal in Indonesia's 27th province and people no longer live in fear. [sentence indistinct]

The territorial operations launched by ABRI [Indonesian Armed Forces] are aimed at improving people's welfare by teaching various skills to the people so they can be self-reliant and start their own business, such as becoming car mechanics or tailors. The ABRI approach is focussed on providing prosperity and security. "These are ABRI's tasks and people will directly benefit from them. The ABRI personnel are not assigned to do combat duties there. Local government officials are assigned to implement development programs designated by the central government," Rudini said.

"If a riot similar to the recent one takes place, it is but a momentary and small incident. Please do not imagine the scene as it has been reported by the foreign press. Do not compare it with events in Cambodia for instance," Rudini said.

Development programs implemented by the regional government in Dili are not affected by the incident, which killed 19 and injured 91 persons.

The home affairs minister also instructed the governor to intensify communications among regional government officials. If there is any incident, the public should always be informed.

When reporters asked what else the governor had reported to him, Rudini said: "Perhaps I know a lot more about the incident in Dili, but I have no authority to reveal them to you. Rudini stressed that only the armed forces commander has the authority to provide details of the situation.

Information Minister Says Foreign Press 'Biased'

BK2011132491 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0959 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Medan (North Sumatra), Nov 20 (OANA-ANTARA)—Information Minister Harmoko said here on Wednesday foreign press reports on the November 12 Dili incident have no clear sources and tend to discredit the Indonesian Government in the eyes of the world.

"Reports by foreign press are biased. They should base their reports on the accuracy principle," the minister said at Polonia Airport here.

The Indonesian Government does not refuse coverage by foreign press in Indonesia, but it should look into the facts only and must not exaggerate its reports, he stressed.

The report by foreign press saying that security officers rounded up and executed 80 youths involved in the November 12 riot in Dili was untrue, he said.

According to the minister, what happened in Dili was a matter of security involving provocation by remnants of anti-integration troublemakers.

Minister Harmoko was in Medan before continuing his trip to Aceh Province where he is expected to inaugurate a TV relay station.

Diplomatic Sites in Australia Targets for Protest

BK1911101191 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0828 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Jakarta, Nov 19 (OANA-ANTARA)—The Indonesian Embassy in Canberra Tuesday morning lodged a protest to the Australian Foreign Ministry, hoping that the situation that enables the embassy to carry out its routine activities be restored immediately, Indonesian Ambassador to Australia Sabam Siagian said Tuesday.

Beginning from Monday, the Indonesian Embassy building was picketed by members of the Australian trade unions, Siagian told ANTARA.

Secretary of the Trades and Labor Council (TLC) Charles McDonald was reported as saying by REUTER that the purpose of applying the picket was to protest against the November 12 riot in Dili, the provincial capital of East Timor.

In the lawn across the Indonesian Embassy building in Canberra a cross was erected, while on a nearby electricity pole, banners that resembled the flags of Fretilin, the Security Disturbing Movement (GPK) in East Timor, were hoisted.

The Post and Telegraph Agency of Australia, whose employees mostly are members of the trade unions, failed to deliver letters and goods to the embassy, Siagian said adding that "so did the service couriers who were supposed to bring in visa application forms to the embassy building."

This, he said, has made the embassy unable to carry out its regular activities.

Meanwhile, in Darwin, it was reported that on Monday, demonstrators pelted stones at the Indonesian Consulate building and cars of the consulate's staff members.

Electricity to the building was also cut off from the outside, Siagian said.

Darwin, in the Northern Territory, was known as a city where remnants of the GPK Fretilin often get together.

The Indonesian Consulate building on 22 Coronation Drive some time ago was also attacked by a gun shot by rioters just before Ambassador Siagian delivered a speech.

According to the ambassador, anti-Indonesia activities have been conducted in Darwin since Thursday of last week.

In Sydney, New South Wales, where the Indonesian Consulate General building is located, demonstrations also took place.

The police, Siagian said, failed to arrive on the scene of the demonstration on time, that the Indonesian flag was put down and the representative office of the Indonesian flag carrier, Garuda, was scrawled and splattered.

Staffs 'Intimidated and Threatened'

BK2011115691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1101 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Canberra, Nov 20 (AFP)—Indonesia's ambassador to Australia has appealed for more protection for his embassy and consulates as they face a wave of protests after troops massacred mourners in East Timor last week.

Ambassador Sabam Siagian formally complained to the Foreign Affairs Department about official trade union pickets outside his embassy in Canberra and the occupation Tuesday of the consulate in Darwin.

Indonesia's offices in Sydney, Darwin and Melbourne have been targets of what its staff describe as worsening protests, including stone throwing.

Siagian also raised the issue with Prime Minister Bob Hawke when he was called in Tuesday night to hear once again Australian protests about the massacre by Indonesian troops in the East Timorese capital of Dili on November 12.

Official figures on the incident, which occurred during a memorial service for a young East Timorese killed in an earlier clash, say 19 were killed and 91 injured. Other sources, including witnesses, have said up to 115 people might have died.

Indonesian embassy staff felt intimidated and threatened by East Timorese groups protesting about the massacre, embassy spokesman Wahid Supriyadi said.

"We made it clear we are asking for more protection," Supriyadi said. "There is a trend that the protests are getting worse."

He complained that police had not stopped people throwing stones at the consulate in Sydney, where he said windows were broken.

A Foreign Affairs Department spokesman said Australia would fulfill its obligations to protect the embassies and consulates and ensure their normal operations.

"We've reassured them we will provide the necessary protection," the spokesman said.

Unions based in Canberra have officially endorsed the picket of the embassy, with truck drivers refusing to deliver goods and services.

Broken windows at the Darwin and Sydney consulates will be repaired by the Australian Government, but not until the pickets are lifted to allow glaziers into the buildings.

The conservative opposition called on the government to "carefully consider" any ministerial visits to Indonesia until Jakarta provided a satisfactory explanation for the massacre.

Opposition foreign affairs spokesman Robert Hill said he had met Siagian to express "deep concern".

Australian Council for Overseas Aid executive director Russell Rollason said he had asked the prime minister to urge Indonesia to issue visas to members of a humanitarian mission to visit the province.

Indonesian troops entered East Timor in December 1975, a few months after the withdrawal of the Portuguese colonial administration, and Jakarta unilaterally declared the territory its 27th province in 1976.

(In Australia on Wednesday, the commander of the Indonesian Armed Forces, General Try Sutrisno, was widely quoted as saying that the mourners in Dili "had to be blasted."

(The Australian Broadcasting Corp. led its evening news bulletin with the remarks, which prompted a spokesman for Prime Minister Bob Hawke to say: "If the report is true, it is appalling."

(Try reportedly told graduates of a military academy in Jakarta that "people who refuse to toe the line must be shot."

(The report, first carried in the Indonesian newspaper JAYAKARTA and reproduced in THE AGE of Melbourne on Wednesday, quoted the general as claiming that his troops tried to use "sympathetic and persuasive means" before resorting to force.

(The mourners were former guerrilla fighters who had come to Dili to "stir things up," Try said.

(They had "yelled improper words" at the troops, who were restrained, he said.

(When the crowd acted "even more brutally," he went on, warning shots were fired into the air.

("They continued to be obstinate," Try said of the mourners. "Finally, yes, they had to be blasted. Delinquents like these agitators have to be shot and we will shoot them.")

Jakarta Youths Protest to Australian Embassy

BK2011105191 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0942 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Jakarta, Nov 20 (ANTARA)—Some 60 Indonesian youths here Wednesday launched a demonstration in front of the Australian Embassy in protest of what they called Australia's "unfriendly attitude" towards Indonesian nation.

Led by its general chairman Cahyo Kumolo, the youths who are members of the Indonesian Youths National Committee (KNPI), stated, what had been conducted by some Australians in front of the Indonesian Embassy in Canberra, the Consulate General in Sydney, and in Adelaide "was very disappointing".

During the demonstration, the youths sang Indonesian national anthem Indonesia Raya [Great Indonesia] while displaying posters that among others said "Australia, where is your friendly attitude?", "Respect Indonesia's sovereignty," and "The red and white flag is our life and soul".

The youths said the Australian way of protesting about the November 12 Dili (East Timor) incident had been very biased and insulting towards the dignity of the Indonesian nation.

Indonesian Ambassador to Australia Sabam Siagian told ANTARA Tuesday that the Indonesian Embassy had been picketed by members of Australian trade unions that letters and goods could not be delivered to the embassy building.

Moreover, in Darwin (Northern Territory), the Indonesian Consulate building was also pelted, while electricity was cut off from the outside, the ambassador said.

The KNPI members in their statement further said, some Australians who destroyed and burned the Indonesian flag in front of the Indonesian Consulate General in Sydney (New South Wales) and in Adelaide (South Australia) had been very brutal and insulting.

Therefore, they said, the Australian Government should be responsible for it.

They also said that the Australian Government was behind all the unfriendly attitude, "unless it did something about it."

From Canberra, meanwhile, it was reported that a spokesman for the Australian Foreign Ministry said that his country stood by its recognition of Indonesia's sovereignty over East Timor.

"The government has not intimated that it is moving from its policy, that is recognition of Indonesian sovereignty," the spokesman said.

Military Spokesman Says No Protesters Detained

BK1911123091 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1213 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Text] Jakarta, Nov 19 (OANA-ANTARA)—Chief spokesman of the Indonesian Armed Forces (ABRI) Brigadier General Nurhadi Purwosaputro said here Tuesday evening that those demonstrating in front of the Australian Embassy earlier on the day belonged to the separatist group.

About 25 East Timorese students launched a protest in front of the Australian Embassy here by displaying posters depicting anti- integration spirit.

Nurhadi further said their attitude was against the aspirations of the East Timor people who since 1976 had decided to integrate with Indonesia and to make the former Portuguese colony Indonesia's 27th province.

Asked by ANTARA on what measures had been taken against the demonstrators, he said, none of them had been detained by the security officials.

The East Timorese students, aside from launching a protest in front of the Australian Embassy, also went to the Japanese Embassy and the UN office, which all are located on Jakarta's main avenue, Jalan Thamrin.

Chairman of the House's Commission I (in charge of foreign as well as defense and security affairs) Imron Rosyadi when asked to comment on the demonstration said he would rather study everything first.

"I haven't got a full report on it," Rosyadi said.

Daily Urges Impartiality in Dili Rioting Probe

BK1911102591 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 15 Nov 91 p 4

[Editorial: "Impartial Probe Needed"]

[Text] Due to the conflicting nature of the accounts which we have been receiving so far, it is up to this moment not quite clear what precisely happened in Dili, the capital of East Timor, during the week. According to the latest official version, as communicated by the commander of the Udayana military region, Maj. Gen. Sintong Panjaitan, in a news conference in Dili yesterday, the incident started after a crowd of between 1,000 and 1,500 people marched from the town's Motael Church enroute to the Turismo Hotel, where the delegates of the United Nations Human Rights Commission were staying.

During that march Maj. Gerhan Lantara, the deputy commander of the 700th Battalion, was stabled and wounded by passing demonstrators in front of the town's military district office. One other soldier was also stabbed, according to the account. The demonstrators then marched on towards the Santa Cruz Cemetery, where two victims of a demonstration which occurred on Oct 28 lie buried. It was there that the shooting started.

How and why it started, however, is a question that still has to be answered. According to some reports, the troops began shooting without provocation. The official account on the other hand says that it was the demonstrators who started the incident by shooting first, using pistols, and throwing grenades, which however failed to explode. According to Maj. Gen Sintong Panjaitan, 19 demonstrators were killed and 91 were wounded.

In light of what happened in East Timor, we feel compelled to add a few comments of our own to what has already been stated by others. In the first place, we agree with the view expressed by leaders and human rights spokesmen around the world, and incidentally also by Minister of Foreign Affairs Ali Alatas, who deplore the incident. Quite a great number of lives were lost and the loss of life in violence is always to be deplored.

Secondly, we strongly support suggestions that a thorough and impartial investigation be made into the incident. The assurance given by Gen. Try Sutrisno, the Armed Forces commander, is therefore most welcome. We are not sure whether it is feasible under the circumstances to have an independent investigation conducted, in the sense that it is undertaken by independent international agencies. As far as Indonesia is concerned, after all, East Timor is a legitimate part of Indonesia. Nevertheless, it is important to the restoration of Indonesia's credibility that the impartiality of the investigtion be guaranteed and that the inquiry be held promptly.

We underscore the suggestion made by member of the House of Representatives, Marzuki Darusman, that it should involve nongovermental groups such as lawyers and House members to ensure objectivity. It might also be considered to include a representative of the International Red Cross, which has an office in Dili, in the investigation. No less important, a study should be made as to the degree to which societal problems such as unemployment, competition by newcomers and injustice could have contributed to the discontent that exists, especially among young East Timorese, and which, according to House member Clementino Dos Reis, of East Timor, has given rise to anti-integration feelings in the province.

It appears that East Timor, although a part of Indonesia, still needs to be given speical treatment in the sense that it requires time to adjust itself and get on a par with the other provinces of this country, and also in that special heed must be taken of the sensitivities and perceptions which prevail. Time, it is said, heals everything. But unless the current problems and the factors that underly them are tackled expeditiously, it may take a long time for the wounds to heal.

Philippines

Manglapus Views U.S. Stance on 3-Year Withdrawal

HK2011032691 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 20 Nov 91 p 3

[By Arthur I. Bariuad]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Raul S. Manglapus yesterday disclosed that the United States was still interested in negotiating with the Philippines a three-year withdrawal agreement which would chart the schedule of American troop pullout from the country.

Manglapus, who negotiated the rejected Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Security, told diplomatic reporters that Washington officials "continue to show strong interest in our bilateral relations."

"They are still interested in negotiating three-years," the foreign secretary said, "but whatever the reasons, (for the apparent delay of the formal talks) I don't know" he added.

Diplomatic observers perceive an apparent delay on the part of the U.S. in forging a withdrawal agreement pending the results of the 1992 presidential polls scheduled in May.

The Philippine government had sent a diplomatic note to the U.S. Embassy October 18 requesting for the start of formal talks to come up with a three-year withdrawal agreement. However, a formal reply is still being awaited by Manila.

After the rejection of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Security September 16, the Senate urged Malacanang to come up with a three-year phaseout agreement with Washington which would chart the schedules for an orderly American troop pullout from the Philippines. The agreement aims, among other things, to address the adverse impact of a precipitious and immediate U.S. withdrawal to the sagging Philippine economy.

President Aquino warned Monday that U.S. military installations in the country would have to be dismantled in 1992 should Washington continue to ignore Manila's request for new rounds of talks.

Mrs. Aquino said "without such an answer, we will be unable to accommodate the U.S. for three more years."

U.S. Embassy spokesman Morton Smith, however said talks were already ongoing and another embassy official said Washington's move to begin informal talks was already an acknowledgement that it was willing to negotiate for a three-year agreement.

"All I can say at this point is that talking and negotiating are going on," Smith said in a telephone interview. He refused to elaborate.

Ambassador Raul Rabe of the American Affairs Office of the DFA [Department of Foreign Affairs] said the U.S. Government was still discussing the matter. "They (U.S.) did not say that they are not replying, but they said they are still discussing it in Washington DC."

"They are bringing some points to Washington for decision with the intention that the decision can eliminate some of the sticky points," prior to formal talks, Rabe stressed. He said he was "not at liberty to reveal the sticky points."

The foreign secretary also dismissed some interpretation that the U.S. was virtually abandoning the Philippines in favor of Malaysia and Indonesia as a result of the rejection of the controversial treaty. The two Southeast Asian countries have offered the U.S. an access arrangement to compensate the loss of U.S. basing rights in the Philippines, which the U.S. was willing to consider.

Manglapus said, "Everytime I talk with U.S. officials, they continue to show strong interest in our bilateral relations."

"It is understandable that countries like Malaysia made offers to the U.S., apparently Indonesia also, so this is something that is expected and one of the things that I predicted," he said.

According to Manglapus the offer was a welcomed development in efforts of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) for burden-sharing on matters of regional security.

Editorial Discusses Aquino Diplomatic Note

HK2011052091 Quezon City MALAYA in English 20 Nov 91 p 4

[Editorial: "Has No One Told Her?"]

[Text] President Aquino has expressed impatience over the U.S. Government's delay in replying to a note from the Philippine Government suggesting that the two countries meet to discuss the phaseout of American forces from Subic Naval Base.

The note was sent a month ago, and she said if the U.S. didn't answer "we will be unable to accommodate the U.S. for three more years." Just the same she said she expected a reply "soon."

Curiously, however, Executive Secretary Frank Drilon, who chairs the Philippine panel that will meet with the Americans, said at the same time that informal talks, or "back-channel movements," have been underway for some time. And this was confirmed by U.S. Ambassador Frank Wisner, who said "talks have been going on for weeks." He added: "There are always formal (formal?) talks. They are going on right now."

And Gen. Lisandro Abadia, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff, has just returned from Honolulu where he said he also had met with American military officials and they have reached agreement on the "military aspects" of the withdrawal.

If all these statements are true, then the only terrible conclusion to be drawn is that Filipino officials have been talking to the Americans on such a momentous issue as the Subic phaseout without having bothered to tell President Aquino, much less seek her authority. Otherwise, why would she issue a statement prodding the Americans to inform her when they wished the talks to begin? "What's she talking about?," they must have muttered to themselves. "We've been talking for weeks."

All of which makes the President look like two cents, courtesy of her highest and closest officials. At the very least, for the sake of Mrs. Aquino's self-respect and dignity, Drilon and Abadia should issue a clarification, if they have been misquoted or misunderstood, reassuring the public that she has been kept informed every step of the way and does know what has been going on. On the other hand, if it is really Malacanang SOP to keep her in the dark about even the most important issues and developments, well, that's that.

Military Rebel Leader Gringo Honasan Interviewed

Says Will Not Surrender

HK2011083791 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Former Colonel Gringo Honasan, in an interview with DZXL, stated that the Armed Forces of the Philippines is sending mixed signals to the rebel soldiers. According to Honasan, the government is sensationalizing the issue of their surrender and return to military control despite the fact that this is not the issue being discussed with General Lisandro Abadia. Honasan assured that with the current uncertain situation, he will not return to military custody. However, Honasan said he and his comrades recognize Abadia's efforts to find a solution to the country's problems. Honasan also said there are many forces which are out of the armed forces' control and the Reform the Armed Forces Movement, and it is difficult for the rebel soldiers to enter into any agreement.

[Begin Honasan recording in English] We are getting mixed signals from the government, because at the outset I would like to inform you that if we use the last three-on-one meeting among General Abadia, Commodore Calajate, myself, and Captain Turingan which happened a few weeks ago or more than a month ago, General Abadia actually brought up a proposal to have a moratorium on violence and the use of force up to election time. The election is very significant because it is actually incorporated in number one of our key talking points which we publicly articulated. So, we are wondering what the present frame of mind of General Abadia is regarding his own proposal for a moratorium. It is also significant in the sense that it may probably offer a win-win resolution to his own initiative. It may accord us the chance to resolve this apparent impasse in the talks without either side losing its self- respect and dignity; and which will not necessitate our surfacing or surrender or returning to military control because offhand, I would like to categorically say that under conditions of uncertainty like the one prevailing now, I am not about to surface or surrender or return to military control. Now why?

Let us trace the background of these talks. It was a laudable initiative on the part of General Abadia. He is the only chief of staff who has stuck his neck out in the manner that he has done plus, if you compare him to his predecessors, initially, it took us a long time to prudently and cautiously decide to even talk with him over the telephone. Because the prevailing situation then was we were not starting from zero level of confidence. [end recording]

That was former Colonel Gringo Honasan in an interview with DZXL.

Calls for Aquino's Resignation

HK2011093391 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] The rebel soldiers said they will not press for their eight requests, but will instead ask for the resignation of President Cory Aquino. This was stated by renegade Colonel Gringo Honasan in an interview with Louie Beltran. According to Honasan, President Aquino's resignation will pave the way for a genuine reconciliation. Here is part of the exclusive interview with Gringo Honasan by Louie Beltran:

[Begin Honasan recording in English] It is our intention to design the talks to fail, be hard-nosed about it. We could have come up only with one demand. We could have called it a demand, which is for President Aquino to resign. This is actually the clamor in some sectors of our society. It would mark the beginning of a clean slate for our people. It would mark a very strong political will. It would herald the probability of a better chance for true national reconciliation. [end recording]

Urges Reconciliation, Bases Withdrawal

HK2011102591 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 20 Nov 91

[By anchorwoman Jennifer Postigo]

[Text] In Louie Beltran's exclusive interview with renegade Colonel Gringo Honasan, Gringo called on the Aquino government and the former first lady, Imelda Marcos, to reconcile to not divide the people. Colonel Honasan said there is ongoing revenge from both sides of the two families and this is gravely affecting the country. Here is an excerpt from former Colonel Gringo Honasan's statements:

[Begin recording in English] [Beltran, in progress] ...the talking point, number five, he is talking about is the immediate and unconditional return of the Marcos remains for interment with appropriate honors. This is a political demand identified normally with the opposition, or with the Marcos group. Yet, the Revolutionary Nationalist Alliance-Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officers Union [RAM-SFP-YOU] seems to be surfacing it as part of their concessions.

[Honasan] Mr. Louie, to ask the logic of this whole exercise is national unity, so that we can start moving forward. If this government can develop, even in the remaining seven months, the political will to forgive the remains of its perceived enemies, it might mark the start of more meaningful...

[Beltran, interrupting] So you're looking at it as a means of determining that at this point, forgiveness is possible. Reconciliation is possible.

[Honasan] Yes, because...[changes thought] Let me jump to another related issue. A lot of our people are under the impression, or so government says, that the centerpiece of the present administration is the comprehensive agrarian reform law. It appears, considering current events and current news, that the centerpiece is the prosecution of its enemies, especially the Marcos family. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Honasan added that the RAM-SFP-YOU is also asking for the ejection of the American bases from the country to obtain genuine sovereignty in the Philippines. Here is Colonel Gringo Honasan once again in an exclusive interview with Mr. Louie Beltran.

[Begin recording in English] [Beltran, in progress] ...your point that [words indistinct] media, Colonel Honasan is, number four, immediate and irreversible withdrawal of foreign troops from the country. It proves to indicate some nationalist sentiments as far as your leadership is concerned. And surprising, considering that all of you are equipped, trained, perhaps even the system of education is patterned, after the United States. The only foreign troops here are the United States. Yet, you are asking for their immediate and irreversible withdrawal. Isn't that sort of inconsistent with your own background?

[Honasan] Not really, because you know, Mr. Louie, over the years, maybe, it was also our setback, our shortcoming that our brand of nationalism has been basically instinctive. It is....[changes thought] We are now reaching a point where we are trying to identify ourselves squarely with pro-people interests. And, considering what has happened so far, we feel that the Filipino people need to assert its sovereignty once and for all. And what happened in the legislative branch has validated this. Now, this is not the product of my small mind, or our small minds in the movement. This is a product of a long process of consensus gathering. And visionaries, the very few Filipino visionaries, competent and responsible, not necessarily identified with us, had said that this is the pulse of the masses. [end recording]

Admires Abadia's Reunification Efforts

HK2011085291 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Renegade Colonel Gringo Honasan, in an interview with DZXL, said there is no resentment against renegade Colonel Eduardo Red Kapunan upon his return to government.

According to Honasan, they are not angry with Kapunan for returning to the government because he only went back to his house, which is inside the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP]. Honasan insisted that at present, the elements of the armed forces are considered to be the mass and political base of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement or RAM.

Meanwhile, Honasan also confirmed that they now admire General Lisandro Abadia, AFP chief of staff, for his initiative to solve the fragmentation within the AFP. According to Honasan, he admires Abadia for having shown that he is sincere about his intention to reunify the AFP. Honasan cited as an example the effort of Abadia to personally talk to them even if he had been waiting for a long time to see results from his initiative. Honasan also added that on the matter of credibility, there is no reason for them to doubt the capability of Abadia to head the AFP.

Aquino Reiterates Deadline for Honasan Surrender

HK2011090191 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] The deadline for renegade Colonel Gringo Honasan to return to military control was not extended by Malacanang. The threat of a new coup d'etat was downplayed by the palace. Here is Dick Singchongco, DZRH Unit 6, with the details.

[Begin recording] Malacanang will not grant an extension to the deadline offered to rebel officer Gregorio Honasan and other leaders of the previous coup attempt. Aquino stood firm on her 23 November deadline directive to Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] Chief Lisandro Abadia to end the negotiation with Honasan. Following this, Malacanang has belittled the capabilities of the rebel soldiers to launch another coup. Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon said the rebel soldiers no longer have the strength to launch a massive offensive to bring down the government. This was Drilon's reaction to the renewed threat by the rebel soldiers to launch another coup. According to the report, Honasan said their threat was in retaliation to the deadline given by Malacanang to which they object. Acting Secretary Renato de Villa said they are prepared to face and respond to threats by Honasan. The president previously stressed that the primary reason for the deadline was because nothing positive came out of the AFP-Honasan dialogue. [end recording]

Military Rebels Accuse Abadia of Reneging

HK2011045091 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 20 Nov 91 p 3

[By Dario B. Agnote]

[Text] Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Lisandro C. Abadia allegedly reneged on his promise to free some 21 detained senior rebel officers in exchange for former Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Eduardo "Red" Kapunan's return to military control thus jeopardizing the reconciliation efforts with the right-wing forces.

Abadia immediately denied having made any commitment to the right-wing leaders.

"*Walang quid pro quo ito* (There is no quid pro quo here)," he said over the telephone, adding that the military rebels were merely justifying their moves.

As of yesterday, Abadia said he had yet to receive information from his emissaries on whether former Colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan would agree to meet with him before Saturday. "I am still hopeful."

The AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief insisted he did not make any commitments to release detained senior military officers from jail in exchange for Kapunan's surrender late last month.

Sources from the Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabayan [Revolutionary Nationalist Alliance] (RAM) also alleged in a telephone interview that Abadia did not fulfill his promise to immediately transmit to higher authorities the eight talking points prepared by the RAM secretariat to pave the way for the projected talks between the right-wing forces and the government.

These two issues, said the source, basically hampered the surfacing of coup leader Honasan and the 10 other fugitive mutinous officers before the government-set deadline this Saturday.

"As far as we know that was what Red (Kapunan) wants ... that is why he decided to surface," said the source who declined to be named, citing their right to be freed if no strong evidence could be slapped against them.

The source declined to name the 21 detained senior rebel officers but another source said these officers included three generals implicated in the December 1989 coup attempt.

The government's decision to impose a deadline for Honasan and the 10 other RAM leaders to surface has reportedly bred "extreme disappointment" among detained right-wing leaders. "*Wala naman sa framework ang deadline na' 'yan* (The framework had no such deadline)," the source said.

In fact, the RAM source said the right-wing forces unilaterally imposed a moratorium on military offensive and escape until May next year "to clearly demonstrate our sincerity."

The source, who was also part of the eight-man RAM secretariat which drafted the eight-pointed agenda, said he had no idea how Kapunan felt about the government's sudden change of mind. "I have not talked to him yet on this matter. *Kahit nga si Greg (Honasan) wala man lang tawag o sulat* (Even Greg has not called or written). We are completely out of touch."

The source attributed the sudden cut of communication between them and the RAM executive committee to the "apprehension" being experienced now in the movement.

"You see, (the RAM executive committee members) have been apprehensive lately," he explained. "*Alam mo naman siguro na alam na nila (the military) lahat ng safehouses namin dito sa Manila kaya* [Prehaps you know that they (military) already know all of our safehouses here in Manila which is why] anytime they can launch their manhunt operations against Greg and the other (fugitive RAM leaders)."

Despite this, however, the source said the right-wing leaders said they were still hopeful that something positive would turn out. "We are still hopefull ... maybe we can start again from zero."

Thailand

Amaret To Resign if U.S. 'Pressure' Continues

BK2911042191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Nov 91 p B1

[Text] Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on has threatened to resign if the National Legislative Assembly rejects the patent bill or if the United States retains Thailand on its list of countries identified for retaliation.

Amaret said yesterday that he was ready to face any consequences accompanying the passage of the patent bill, as the attempt to amend the law was in the national interest.

If the US continued to pressure for more and decided to impose retaliatory tariffs on Thai exports to its market, he would resign to express his responsibility in the affair, the minister said in solemn tones.

Amaret said the US Trade Representative Carla Hills, whom he met last week in Seoul at the ministerial meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic grouping (APEC), seemed to give the impression that she was satisfied with the submission of the patent bill and its contents.

His remark was contrary to prior reports that Hills had sent a letter to Amaret on Friday, when the bill was debated in the Assembly, expressing dissatisfaction over its contents which, she said, did not encompass the US demands.

"Thailand's trading partners should be satisfied with the improvement in protection of intellectual property rights here than in the past with the revision of several laws," the minister said.

"But how satisfactory they are is not the matter that we now consider. Everything is up to the Assembly to decide," he added.

Washington will decide whether to retaliate against Thailand under the Section 301 of the US 1988 Trade Act next month.

The usual 6-month deadline for investigation is, however, due this month.

The deferment of decision on this is because when the US designated Thailand as a country facing retaliation threat on April 26, it did not initiate new charges against Bangkok that would accelerate the announcement.

Therefore, the original deadline for investigation on two existing cases—one on copyright infringement and the other on piracy of pharmaceutical products—will apply. The first is due in the middle of December and the second is scheduled for March next year.

The designation of Thailand together with China and India for failure to protect American intellectual property rights earlier this year was seen as an attempt to force Bangkok to yield to the pressure. Amaret has been at the centre of criticism from days shortly after he assumed office in the Anan government.

The Commerce Ministry's attempt to amend the 1979 Patent Act to pave way for protection of pharmaceuticals, active ingredients in drugs, farm machinery, food and beverages, and biotechnological inventions under the law has been attacked repeatedly.

His statement yesterday indicated that Amaret has bet his political career on the passage of this crucial and controversial legislation in a bid to win the support of the 19-member panel, ten of which were selected by the Assembly and the remaining by the government, named to debate the final draft of the revised patent law.

The second reading is important because at this stage opposition groups including those in medical and academic circles who have beend particularly vocal in the move to kill the amendment plan are expected to mount an aggressive attack.

The opposition has pinned its hopes on the fact that the assembly is able to select ten panel members and is in a position to drop the bill because it has one vote more than the government.

Amaret told reporters yesterday that he was quite relieved that the Assembly had already approved the bill at the first reading last Friday, despite his absence.

The minister was apparently worried when he left for the ministerial meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation grouping in Seoul on Sunday, prior to the debate on the following week.

He assigned his deputy, MR Pridiyathon Thewakun, and Yangyong Puangrach, deputy director-general of the Business Economics Department and intellectual property specialist, to represent him.

At the same time, the minister had his assistant circulate the letter which he sent to the president of the Assembly to clarify several points which the opposition picked on to criticize the bill.

In the first reading, 220 members voted to amend the law with only a lone opposing voice.

The 19-member panel is required by law to conduct the second reading within 15 days afterwards.

The US has expressed dissatisfaction on two points.

Anan, Amaret Meet With PRC Commerce Minister

BK1911131591 Bangkok XING XIAN RIBAO in Chinese 19 Nov 91 p 4

[Text] Chinese Commerce Minister Hu Ping and his delegation paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun yesterday morning. The two sides exchanged views on trade issues during the meeting. The Chinese commerce minister is on a visit to Thailand from 14 to 24 November.

During the talks, Prime Minister Anan told the Chinese commerce minister that good progress had been made in bilateral trade between the two countries. However, the two countries should consider adding new items to their trading list. The major products currently traded between the two countries are rice and oil. Prime Minister Anan said that he was focusing on international trade because trade could help strengthen cooperation between developing countries. Minister Hu Ping told the prime minister that the Chinese people needed to buy new products from foreign countries, which would in turn benefit Thailand's trade promotion. He believes that bilateral trade between the two countries would be further expanded in the future. The two sides also exchanged views on the possibility of adding more items to bilateral trade. For example, China might buy sugar from Thailand while Thailand might purchase soybeans from China.

Finally, Prime Minister Anan asked Chinese Commerce Minister Hu Ping to convey his regards to Chinese President Yang Shangkun; Jiang Zemin, general secretry of the CPC Central Committee; and Premier Li Peng.

Meanwhile, Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on said that he had met with his Chinese counterpart Hu Ping and the delegation. He said that the two sides discussed the expansion of bilateral trade such as increasing the current trade volume from 2.4 percent to 3.6 percent of Thailand's total exports. The Chinese commerce minister also briefed Amaret on results of his meeting with the Thai prime minister.

UN Official Urges Rapid Demining in Cambodia

BK1811035791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Nov 91 p 8

[By Anurat Maniphan]

[Text] The earliest possible start of demining in Cambodia to allow 340,000 Khmers to return to their homeland in safety is being urged by a top United Nations official.

Douglas Stafford, deputy to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR], said at the weekend the UNHCR is in a race against time to obtain "as quickly as possible" the right conditions for people to return in safety and dignity.

The Khmer Rouge, since the signing of the Cambodian peace agreement in Paris on October 23, has cut a new border road that logistically would smooth its own movement of people back into Cambodia, he said.

Mr Stafford was interviewed by the BANGKOK POST shortly before heading back to Geneva on Saturday after a three-day visit. He said he will work through authorities in Geneva and New York to move forward the demining programme, describing the scheduled June start as "unacceptable."

While in Thailand, Mr Stafford went to the Khmer Rouge controlled camp of Site 8, met Thai officials and representatives of donor countries and related relief organisations.

He said the late September disappearance of camp administrators has left a high level of anxiety with fears of forced repatriation among displaced Cambodians at Site 8.

"It didn't help matters that in the middle of the night, since the peace accords were signed, a road has been cut from Cambodia right up to the gate of the camp," he said.

Border sources said the road leads to the southeastern corner of Site 8 and resembles a bulldozed path wide enough to squeeze in two sedan cars side by side.

The origin of the road is unknown but there is speculation that it could link the camp with Phnom Pruek, seven kilometres further south, or with Phnom Dai, known in Thai as Khao Din, which is north of the camp about twice as far away.

Phnom Dai is said to be the stronghold of Mitr Ni Kan, the hardline commander who is a younger relative of Khmer Rouge Defence Minister Son Sen.

Mr Stafford affirmed that he held talks with the present camp leaders at Site 8 and was given what he described as a "mixed message."

He said the guerrillas assured him people would be allowed to go home volutarily but at the same time made clear that they were ready to receive people "in their own areas."

Mr Stafford said he was shown maps of areas in Khmer Rouge-controlled territory where mines were said to have been cleared and conditions were described as right for people to return. He was also asked for UN humanitarian assistance for those areas.

He added he has no objecitons to people returning to Khmer Rouge zones so long as they were free to make that choice.

Under the peace agreement, the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) will take charge of demining throughout the war-shattered country.

In practice, the task will be undertaken by Cambodians who have received training in demining techniques from UN military experts, Mr Stafford said. it is standard practice for local people to be negated in such operations.

For the purposes of repatriation, 140,000 to 150,000 hectares of land—to be made available to returnees for agriculture close to their villages—will need to be demined or verified as mine-free.

Although nothing is certain at this point, Mr Stafford said there is a "school of thought" that displaced people living on the Cambodian side have a "good sense" of where the mines are.

In addition, it is believed the four factions will "give information" on the locations now that they have reached a peace agreement.

Mr Stafford was in Thailand to assess the preparedness of agencies involved in the repatriation, which will be the largest organized movement of this kind in recent history.

But, as one source put it, "everything was stalled" until the peace agreement was signed, not least of all funding.

Until the third week of October, the UNHCR had received pledges amounting to only US$6 million, of which most came from Japan. According to Mr Stafford, the figure has now grown to $25 million, following new pledges made since November 1.

The UNHCR needs an estiamted $33 million for preparations alone. The entire repatriation operation, which is expected to take several months, altogether, is estimated to cost $109 million.

Amid mounting pressure, Mr Stafford said there "has to be a flexible schedule" for the repatriation. The goal, he said, is to "get people back to Cambodia as quickly as we can when conditions are reasonable for them to return."

Although earlier planning called for the repatriation to take place over the course of next year, more recent thinking reportedly favours a resettlement of the Cambodians in time for the crop planting season beginning late May.

Pressure for the UN repatriation to take off stems from fears of forced repatriation and of "spontaneous" returns by refugees anxious not to miss what has become known as a "landrush." Both risk landmines and malaria, on top of problems of food and water, relief sources said.

Since the peace agreement, preparatory work has "moved very quickly," Mr Stafford said. He cited the coming together on November 1 of the UNHCR and the UN Border Relief Operation which he said has assembled "a lot of resources" equipped to deal with repatriation.

Pre-registration interviews of the Cambodian population are 70 percent complete, ahead of schedule.

Site 8—with a population of 40,000-plus—last weekend became the first camp to have completed the interviews, designed to determine the Cambodians' preferred choices of relocation in their home country.

Compilation of the interviews here and at five other border sites will give the UNHCR some indication of the favoured areas.

'Redefined' Policy Towards Cambodia Outlined

BK1711053891 Bangkok THE NATION in English 17 Nov 91 p A4

[by Kawi Chongkitthawon]

[Text] When the Thai envoy Sunai Bunyasiriphan presents his credentials to Prince Norodom Sihanouk this evening (Sunday), Thai policy towards Cambodia would have come full circle.

Sunai's presence in Cambodia would also mark the first time for Thailand to have initiated an independent policy—without superpower influence—towards the Indochinese country since the end of World War II.

In the past, Thailand's policy covering its eastern neighbour was shaped by external powers and the Cold War. Cambodia, as part of Indochina, was also a battleground for superpower conflict.

Thailand had broken off diplomatic relations with Cambodia three times in their modern history. The first two under the reign of Sihanouk and the last when the Khmer Rouge toppled the Lon Nol government.

After years of suspicion and hostility, Sihanouk brought Thailand to the world court in The Hague over the disputed demarcation line at the famous Preah Vihear Temple, or known as Khao Prawihan in Thailand. Sihanouk won and Thailand severed diploamtic ties in 1961.

In 1970, Bangkok resumed its diplomatic relations with the government of Gen Lol Nol under U.S. pressure when Washington interfered in Cambodia. The Thai embassy left when the Khmer Rouge stormed Phnom Penh in April 1975. Efforts to reestablish ties between Bangkok and the Khmer Rouge were relinquished by Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia.

"Thailand will help Cambodia to rebuild itself. We will do whatever we can," Sunai told THE NATION over the weekend.

Before he left for Phnom Penh, Sunai had a two-hour brain storming session with Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun, Army Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun and Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin on Thailand's policy towards Cambodia during the transitional period, which will last until early 1993.

"It was an exchange of views on how Thailand should conduct itself towards Cambodia," he said.

The envoy said Thailand has expressed its readiness to help Cambodia in vital areas such as public health, improvement of infrastructure and personnel training which is very much needed. "The Cambodians can choose whatever they see fit for their country," he said.

In Paris during the signing of the peace accord, Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin said Thailand was ready to help with the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia as well as in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the war-ravaged country. Thailand, he said, could be used as a staging area to help Cambodia.

"We intend to do everything within our ability to ensure that the dawn of peace in Cambodia is lasting," said Asa, who is to lead a 40-member delegation to Phnom Penh on Wednesday.

Judging from official statements and discussions with Thai Foreign Ministry officials, Thailand has adopted a cautious approach in reaching out to Cambodia albeit its desire to forge closer ties with that country.

"Thailand does not want to be seen as an exploiter in Cambodia," commented one Thai official, who was here to set up the Thai representative's office.

As a neighbour, Thailand has to be sensitive towards Cambodia and the needs of its people, said the French-speaking Sunai.

Over the years, critics had charged that Thailand ahd plundered Cambodia's rich natural resources especially the forest near Thailand's border. Thailand banned logging in 1989 and found a new source for timber in Cambodia and Burma.

With the Anan administration's new-found sensitivity, Thailand's policy regarding Cambodia has been redefined to fit into the context of the two countries' long history.

Thailand's gesture towards Cambodia under this government has been so far non-provocative and non-assertive. Instead, the policy has sought to build-up mutual trust, which was lacking in the past, with the Cambodian leaders and the people.

Thailand's handling of the repatriation of refugees is the case in point. Despite some reports that Thailand was going to force back the estimated 350,000 displaced persons, it has not done so. Thailand wants to cooperate with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and Phnom Penh for orderly and safe repatriation.

Thai policy on Cambodia today is a far cry for the past. In the past decade, Thailand hah backed the Cambodian resistance groups based along the country's border in their fight against the Phnom Penh regime before the peace settlement was reached last month. It was in early 1989 that Bangkok and Phnom Penh began informal contacts amidst outcries from fellow Asean memebers and allies. When Vietnam invaded Cambodia at the end of 1978, Thailand and Asean led the international community in isolating Vietnam and Cambodia.

Phnom Penh based Thai officials said during the interim period, the Thai representative's office here, which began functioning week, will serve as a base to coordinate and distribute emergency and humanitarian assistance from Thailand to help Cambodia, rather than concentrate on trade. "To give aid is our priority," said one official.

According to Customs Department statistics, bilateral trade between Thailand and Cambodia was still marginal. In 1986, two-way trade was little over Bt13 million, without any major imports from Cambodia. As the Cambodian conflict began to ease and Thailand's domestic demand for timber grew, bilateral trade jumped almost 10-fold in five years to Bt125 million in 1990, with Thailand suffering a trade deficit of Bt118 million. Thailand also imports gem stones from Cambodia.

The official figure did not take into account the huge amount of unregistered trade volume generated by widespread smuggling along the Thai-Cambodian border and gem stone mining in Pailin.

At the moment, a handful group of Thai businessmen, with connections to the current leaders, have enjoyed the privilege to invest in Cambodia and bought up state-owned enterprises.

Commerce Ministry Drafts 3-Step EC Market Plan

BK1811073991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 18 Nov 91 p B1

[Text] The Commerce Ministry has come up with a three-step plan in preparation for the unified European Community market after 1992 and urged Thai commercial banks to set up branches in Europe to finance Thai businesses there.

Informed sources said the Commerce Ministry has instructed its European offices to study and compile a list of legal obstacles blocking Thai exports in each of the 12 EC member countries.

The plan to prepare Thai export-oriented industries for the single EC market was endorsed by the Cabinet in September.

The first step is described as an adjustment plan in which studies will be conducted by various agencies to assess the impact of the single EC market and find strategies for Thai industries to act accordingly.

The second step is a defensive action marked by publicizing of EC regulations and rules so that Thai industries can make appropriate adjustments and thwart any attempts by the Community to limit Thai exports to the bloc.

The sectors covered in the second step include canned seafood, textiles and garments. Thai industries will have about a year to adjust as the Community will complete and implement common regulations at border checkpoints in 1993.

The last step is described as an offensive strategy in which Thai industries will need to gain a foothold in the EC. When unification of the EC market and realignment of its rules and regulations are completed, the flow of goods, services and people among the 12 member states will be freed.

Thailand will have to see which laws and regulations result in limits on Thai imports to the EC above global standards. Subsequently, the Thai government and businessmen will attempt to lobby and consult with the EC on relaxing these measures to meet acceptable international standards.

The Commerce Ministry plans to set up commercial counsellor's offices in the two remaining EC countries where it lacks a presence—Portugal and Ireland—to monitor the latest development in trade and investment there.

At the same time, Thai embassies overseas and the Board of Investment have been instructed to assist Thai investors gearing up for the EC market.

Sources stressed the necessity for Thai banks to make plans on opening branches in the EC to support Thai businesses. Banks from other countries have already penetrated the EC in preparation for market unification. EC financial payment and settlement in the single market will also have to be studied.

The Commerce Minstry plans to review the first step of the plan next January and determine how much progress has been made. The assessment will be conducted jointly by representatives of the Commerce, Finance, Industry, Education, Public Health, Science and Foreign ministries, the Thai Bankers Association and the Federation of Thai Industries.

The plan has been under formulation since 1987, when the EC first unveiled its market unification scheme. The Foreign and Commerce ministries have issued a White Paper assessing the impact of the concept on Thai exports, and seven working groups have been formed in areas including investment, service and food.

Bilateral trade between Thailand and the EC has increase significantly in recent years. Total trade is expected to rise 11.7 per cent this year to Bt [bhat] 260 billion and continue growing to Bt316 billion next year.

According to the Business Economics Department, Thai exports to the EC have risen steadily. This year, it is expected that Thailand will export goods worth Bt135 billion to the Community's 12 members. The export value wil likely increase to Bt166 billion next year.

Major export items are manufactured goods, which account for two- thirds of the total. Among them are jewellery, computers and parts, canned food, television receivers and rubber products.

Deputy Finance Minister on Economic Improvement

BK1911043191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Nov 91 p 28

[Text] Thailand's economy in 1992 is expected to improve on this year due to more favourable external and internal factors, according to Finance Deputy Minister Wiraphong Ramangkun.

Dr Wiraphong was speaking before a gathering of about 200 people during a special lecture entitled "The Thai Economy in 1992—Where are We Heading?" organised by the Mutual Fund Co at the Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre.

Dr Wiraphong said economic recovery had started during the middle of this year.

"Major economic indicators have shown signs of recovery, such as the decline in inflationary pressure and the current-account deficit," he said.

Both inflation and the current-account deficit now were under control and should not pose any problems for the economy, he said.

The impact of the Gulf war on the Thai economy had ended and the country's economy would improve next year, he said.

He said the U.S. presidential election, to be held next year, also would help reduce inflationary pressure and interest rates in that country.

He said the international monetary market would follow in the same direction as the U.S. while global oil prices were expected to remain stable throughout 1992.

Changes from socialist to capitalist economies in the USSR and eastern European countries would favour Thailand as it would have more markets to export to.

Commerce Ministry statistics showed the volume of exports to eastern European countries had risen sharply. The export value of textile products to Poland increase 300 percent this year.

If the concept to set up an ASEAN Free-Trade Area (AFTA) won approval during the ASEAN Summit in January next year it would be another positive factor for the Thai economy as it would help boost trade and investment volumes within the region.

As peace returned to Indochina, there also would be good opportunities for Thailand to expand its trade and investment roles there.

Dr Wiraphong said the internal economic and political factors would be more favourable next year because of the bright prospects for exports and local investment, which had recovered since the middle of 1991.

He said the general election, which would be held in 1992, would help build a good image for the country and would attract foreign investors to return to Thailand, both in the stock market and direct investment.

The country's tax system revision programme, which included the implementation of value-added tax (VAT) next year and the reduction of import tax and income tax, would help give the private sector more liquidity.

Dr Wiraphong said increased liquidity in the private money market would mean lower interest rates and increased investment demand.

The country's economy, for which the growth rate was expected to be 7.5-8 percent this year, was considered healthy as the growth was fuelled by outstanding investments and exports.

"It is different from the situation in the past few years during which the growth was fuelled by high consumption and speculation," Dr Wiraphong said.

Prime Minister Denies Reports of 'Gagging' Media

BK1911024591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Nov 91 p 3

[Text] Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun yesterday denied reports that orders had been issued gagging two television stations from any critical coverage of the National Peacekeeping Council and the Government.

Government leaders, assailed by charges of imposing media censorship, yesterday downplayed an order on news policy issued by Permanent Secretary to the Prime Minister's Office Apilas Osathanon to the director of the Mass Communications Organisation of Thailand (MCOT), which controls Channels 3 and 9.

Mr Anan said his government had never tried to restrict the two stations' coverage.

Mr Apilas said that, as chairman of the MCOT board of directors, all he had done was give MCOT director Prasit Hitanan a letter on policy guidelines for presenting constructive, balanced coverage of the military council and Government.

Although responsible for issuing policy instructions, he insisted that the MCOT director exercised news judgment.

PM's Office Minister Michai Wirawaithaya said the interim Government had not tried to gag the stations, and Mr Apilas's instruction had only asked that more care be taken when presenting news of a potentially divisive nature.

Mr Michai said the Government welcomed diverse opinions expressed by the public and wanted the television news to be fair and comprehensive.

Executives of the two channels can exercise their own judment in covering any news story, he said.

Prachakon Thai Party Declines Joint Opposition

BK1711054591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 17 Nov 91 p A1, A2

[Text] The Prachakon Thai Party yesterday refused to join forces with six other parties and other student and human rights groups which condemned what they call a despotic draft constitution and vowed to stage a joint rally at Sanam Luang on Tuesday.

Party leader Samak Sunthorawet claimed that he backed out of the plan at the last minute because the declaration and a more strongly-worded joint statement on the draft charter was "too clumsy". But he stopped short of cutting ties with the others in the emerging anti-military alliance. His deputy secretary general Pakit Phattanakun showed up at the meeting of top-ranking representatives from other parties and groups yesterday afternoon but refused to make any commitment.

Pakit said his party had yet to consider the joint declaration and the joint statement signed by the other five parties and their plan to hold a rally at Sanam Luang.

Samak said he changed his mind after having studied the draft joint statement.

"There are some parts of the draft which are clumsy and made me change my mind. However, I plan to call a meeting of party members to discuss the issue," he told reporters at the Royal River Hotel before the signing ceremony.

Samak's change of heart apparently delayed, from morning to afternoon, the signing of the statement at Chulalongkon University's Information Center. His backtrack left the political-party signatories to a general declaration on democracy to six—Sqn Ldr [Squdron Leader] Prasong Sunsiri for the New Aspiration Party, Banyat Banthatthan for the Democrat Party, Suthep Atthaon for the Phalang Tham Party, Bunchu Rotchanasathian for the Solidarity Party, Siri Phasuk from the Social Democrat Party and Thanaphume Saeng-ngoen from the Chat Prachachon Party.

The political leaders and representatives from the Students Federation of Thailand, the Democracy Campaign Committee and a few other human rights and social groups later signed a joint statement condemning the draft constitution as a tool to provide the military with legitimacy to retain their hold for another four years.

In the statement, the politicians and activists said that even if the election was held and a political party won majority support from voters, the political power would still remain in the grip of the present military junta because under the draft, the number and the power of senators would be equal to that of MPs for the transitional period.

The election would be held only to try to demonstrate to foreigners that Thailand was returning to democracy, according to the statement.

After the polls, the military would still control political power and at that time another attempt could be made to extend the despotic provisional clauses, it added.

Committee Drops Controversial Charter Provisions

BK2011014591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Nov 91 pp 1, 3

[Text] The Constitution Scrutiny Committee yesterday did another about-face telling the National Legislative Assembly [NLA] to reduce the number of senators from 360 to 270 and dropping the clause allowing active civil servants to become cabinet ministers.

However, the NLA later voted 130-36 to uphold another much-opposed provision, Article 94, of the scrutinised draft making the Senate Speaker the Parliament President instead of the House Speaker.

Chairman of the scrutiny committee Osot Kosin presented the draft to the Assembly for the second reading and asked that Article 238 (bi), concerning the number of senators, be reverted to the original draft when the debate about that article arises later. He also asked that Article 242 (bi), allowing civil servants to be appointed to political posts, be removed.

Mr Osot said that he consulted with the remaining 25-member scrutiny committee at a meeting before the second reading began yesterday morning and felt that on reconsideration the two articles in the provisional clause were not fitting.

But later the 79-year-old Osot stood firm on wanting the Senate Speaker to become Parliament President by defiantly telling the assembly that he would be prepared to fight another 21 years until he was 100 before giving up on the article. The assembly voted in his favour.

Debate on the second reading of the draft charter proceeded article by article with assembly members reserving the right to speak by taking turns to debate their position. One member, Somphop Hotrakit, chided Mr Osot at one point that he could not get much changed since there were "white envelopes"—an apparent reference to a Po (whip instruction)—telling members to vote for whatever the scrutiny committee says.

On Article 41 the committee cut out the part stating that the State may give financial assistance to political parties reasoning that the parties in power could misuse this fund to assist their parties even more.

Assemblyman Phinit Chantharasurin, a former MP now with the Samakkhi Tham Party, said this was insufficient reason because other political parties will not allow this to happen. Prakit Phatthanakun, a former Prachakon Thai MP, said that if the country wanted to stay with the democratic system as it professes then assistance must be given to develop the political parties so that it would not be necessary for them to generate illicit funds while in office. He also pointed out that the article clearly stated that if assistance is to be given then a specific law must be enacted. Parties in power cannot just cite the article and then allocate themselves assistance.

The NLA voted to follow the scrutinised draft.

On chapter 6 dealing with the Constitution Committee, Mr Osot said his panel decided to scrap the whole chapter after 15 assemblymen had expressed reservations about it.

Gen Siri Thiwapan, now with the New Aspiration Party, said that he was one of the 15 who proposed it be scrapped because the Constitution Committee was in danger of becoming a fourth institution in Thai society after the Parliament, Administration and Judicial branches. It would be all powerful to oversee the elections, investigate MPs, and select senators.

The NLA upheld the scrutiny decision to delete chapter 6 from the draft.

A large number of assembly members objected to Article 94 to make the Senate Speaker the Parliament President instead of the House Speaker.

Mr Prakit Phatthanakun said that NLA members should have an open mind on deciding on this article and not think of what benefits they or their colleagues would derive from it because a large number of them would most likely be named to the Senate after the general election.

He argued that the sovereign power of the country rested with the Thai people who voted for MPs to represent them in Parliament. The Senate on the other hand did not derive its power from the people and should not have the power to control the representatives of the people. The article insults the integrity of the people despite their higher education and ability to vote for better MPs over the years.

Mr Prakit charged that the committee reversed the provision with an aim to elect a prime minister by the Senate and the House of Representatives. If the votes were tied, then the Parliament President would cast the decisive vote and he would also take the name of the successful candidate to His Majesty the King for a royal appointment as prime minister.

Even if a party should win a majority of 180 seats in Parliament, its leader could not become prime minister without the support of the appointed Upper House, he added.

Mr Niphon Phromphan, a former Democrat MP, said that from experience whenever the Senate Speaker was the Parliament President the work of MPs and their efforts to develop the Parliament progressed very slowly. The committee's decision showed that bias against MPs still exists and reversing the original draft was an apparent tie-in to the election of the premier.

He suggested that if the committee was not ready to accept a House Speaker as Parliament President then it should put the article into the four-year provisional clause rather than leave it in the permanent charter.

Mr Osot said that he had no such bias against MPs and there were three reasons supporting the committee's decision: the Senate-Speaker would be more neutral as Parliament President during joint sittings of both Houses since he would not be a member of any political party unlike the House Speaker; the Parliament President would have to act as chairman of the Constitution Tribunal which the House Speaker would not have time to do; and when Parliament is dissolved or has completed its term the House Speaker will lose his status as MP and cannot act as Parliament President in case of emergencies.

Mr Samran Thawarayut former secretary general of the Civil Service Commission, said this was not a sufficient reason because it cannot be said that the House Speaker will not be neutral and Parliament as a whole is a political institution which must carry out the will of the people. There is also no reason why the House Speaker would not have the time to act as chairman of the Constitution. Tribunal and in a case where the House is dissolved the charter clearly states that the Senate can carry out any emergency parliamentary duties.

Mr Somphop Hotrakit said that he also favoured the House Speaker becoming Parliament President since in 1989 both Houses of Parliament had adopted a resolution to this effect.

Gen Phichit Kunlawanit, permanent secretary for Defence, agreed with Mr Somphop saying that the representative of the people should act as head of the Legislative Branch because this would make the people proud.

Mr Osot replied that he was thinking of consulting the committee about this. However, many of the assemblymen had mentioned the possibility of strong reaction from the Sanam Luang rally and he considered this as issuing a threat against the committee.

"No one can do anything to me. I am ready to fight another 21 years on this," the 79-year-old Osot said.

The NLA overwhelmingly voted to pass the scrutiny committee's amendment.

Assembly Continues Deliberations on Draft Charter

BK2011154891 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] The National Legislative Assembly continued deliberating the draft constitution in the second reading and reached conclusions on several disputed issues. A total of 230 members attended the session which began at 0930 today. The meeting first reviewed the provision on the qualifications of senators. The committee agreed to several amendments such as a senator does not have to be a local council member or an elected local administrator. The assembly then deliberated on the number of members of parliament and decided to fix the number of the House of Representatives at 360. This is in accordance with the proposed draft of the constitution drafting committee. The assembly also upheld the principle of an electoral constituency with three members of parliament. Concerning the election of candidates, the assembly voted for an election method based on divided constituencies and individual candidates. On the eligible age of voters, the assembly voted for the minimum age of 20 years instead of 18, whereas candidates for the election must be at least 25 years old.

A major point in today's deliberation was a proposal by members to add another clause to Article 121. The clause reads: Those whose assets the court has ruled for confiscation as state property because of the owners' unexplained wealth are not qualified to stand for elections.

The session closed at about 1900. There were deliberations up till Article 173. The assembly also voted to insert a clause on the prime minister not needing to be an elected member of parliament. This means the assembly has upheld the original draft proposed by the Constitution Scrutiny Committee to the session.

Anti-Draft Constitution Rally Draws 70-100,000

BK2011021791 Bangkok THE NATION in English 20 Nov 91 pp A1, A2

[Text] Political leaders last night rejected the last-minute concessions by the charter scrutinizing committee and urged the public to keep up pressure on the military junta at the biggest anti-military rally since the Feb 23 coup.

Between 70,000 and 100,000 people joined the rally, taking up almost the entire area at Sanam Luang.

The National Peacekeeping Council (NPKC) was the target of broadsides by the politicians who vowed to campaign until what they described as distatorial provisional clauses were removed from the draft.

Earlier yesterday morning, the scrutinizing committee chaired by Osot Kosin hastily called an urgent meeting to review the draft and announced at the National Assembly session that the panel had agreed to reduce the size of the Senate from 360 to 270, and drop the controversial clause allowing permanent officials to hold political posts during the four-year transition period.

The National Assembly however has yet to consider the provisional clauses. Yesterday, the assembly maintained the recommendation by the panel to make the Senate speaker Parliament president.

But the political leaders yesterday rejected the concessions as inadequate and urged the public to keep a vigil on the second day of the second-reading deliberation on the draft in the National Assembly today.

It was a rare gathering of prominent leaders last night—Phalang Tham leader Maj Gen Chamlong Simuang, New Aspiration [NAP] leader Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, Democrat leader Chuan Likphai, Prachakon Thai leder Samak Sundarawet, Solidarity leader and secretary general Bunchu Rotchanasathian and Uthai Phimchaichon. They were unified in the joint campaign against the same adversary, the NPKC, and to achieve the same purpose, a constitution in which elected MPs would have more say than senators in charting the future political course after the election.

The anti-military sentiment which has accumulated in the past eight months following the bloodless coup was conspicuously strong at the rally where the audience actively participated by responding to the speakers' rousing calls for their shouts against the provisional clauses in the draft.

Maj Gen Chamlong lashed out at the NPKC and said he was ready to face an ordr to remove him from the post of Bangkok governor if his participation in the anti-charter campaign was seen as a challenge by the NPKC.

"If my participation in the campaign with you would lead to an order sacking me from the post by either the government or the NPKC, then I would ask for the people's mandate against them by re- electing (me)," said the popular Bangkok governor.

At one point in his heated attack on the NPKC, Chamlong shouted: "Change your mind and get out."

The governor also urged the audience to shout a slogan "NPKC must revise the charter draft." The shouts echoed the entire rally site.

Chamlong said senators should not exceed half of the elected MPs, or 180, the NPKC should not be empowered under the provisional section to select the senators and political parties should be the ones to pick senators in proportion to their respective presence in the House.

In what appeared to be one of his best rally speeches, Chawalit urged the audience to join a campaign to "stop the dictator and oppose the controversial charter."

He vowed that he would fight towards the end to eliminate dictatorship from the country.

"We will soon meet you again if the people are held in contempt again (if the National Assembly does not remove the undemocratic elements from the draft) and I will be ready to stand up in the forefront in that case," he said, drawing big applause from the audience.

He said his party would continue to push for an early election and "a constitution which would come from the people."

Chuan also pulled no punches in his broadside.

He took to task the scrutinizing committee for its frequent changes of stands on the draft.

"The committee behaved as if it was taking off its clothes in front of the toilet. When they feel like doing it, they do not feel ashamed doing it. And it hurts the feeling of the Thai people throughout the country to have a group of people draw up legislation which runs counter to the public opinion," he said.

Chuan said the reduction of the Senate size to 270 would not make the draft democratic because the Senate could pick or sack the next prime minister, pass or reject important legislation when it joined with only a single political party in the House.

"They are not sincere in making the concession. The heart of a good constitution is the acknowledgement of the people's power but it is not the case with the draft," he said.

He warned that the National Assembly might revive the controversial clause requiring a two-thirds majority support in the two Houses to amend the Constitution.

The drafting committee, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Michai Ruchuphan, proposed the clause but Osot's panel replaced it with a simple majority to pacify critics. Chuan pointed out that the concession was compensated by the increase in the size of the Senate to 360.

"Now we have to keep a close watch. They have brought down the number of senators to 270 and they would bring back the old clause requiring a two-thirds majority to amend the Constitution," he said.

Seven university students who started a hunger strike at Parliament yesterday morning, also appeared on stage at the rally and pledged to continue their protest until the controversial provisional clauses were dropped from the draft.

The campaign against the draft constitution also spread to provinces yesterday:

In the south, a federation of southern students, a confederation of southern teachers and non-governmental organizations announced they would launch a joint campaign through the southern region in the next few days.

In Nakhon Ratchasima, five political parties held a joint rally in which about 200 people participated.

In Khon Kaen, a group of NAP members and fomer eight-time MP Khlaeo Norapati held a rally to oppose the draft constitution. About 300 people attended.

Dailies Condemn Controversial Draft Constitution

BK1811111591

[Editorial Report] Three Thai-language dailies—SIAM RAT, NAEO NA, and BAN MUANG—on 16 and 17 November carry editorials on the controversial draft constitution, which will be debated by the National Legislative Assembly [NLA] in the second and third readings.

SIAM RAT's 16 November 600-word editorial on page 3, entitled "The Constitution and the NLA Members," says that it is necessary for us to again express our opinions on the draft constitution. But, our opinions on this issue will be directed at only the NLA members because this constitution is of great significance for the country and the democracy-loving people. This constitution is still just a draft which will be debated by the NLA members in the second and thired readings. Although the constitution scrutinizing committee has completed its considerations of the draft constitution, its report has yet to be finalized and announced. The final decision rests with the NLA members. It is true that the NLA members are appointed by the National Peacekeeping Council. However, they are all legally considered representatives of the people and are acting as a mouthpiece for the people.

Now the people are not happy because they are not satisfied with the draft constitution revised by the constitution scrutinizing committee. We see that only the NLA members can help solve this problem. "We and the people would like to appeal to the NLA members to use your intelligence and capability in line with your rights and duties so that the people will be happy in the future."

Concluding, the editorial says "we see that the great significance for peace and happiness for the country in the near future depends on the rights and duties of the NLA members."

NAEO NA's 16 November 650-word editorial on page 4, entitled "It Is Better for Us To Make a New Start," says that the people who have rested their hope with the constitution review panel are very disappointed with draft constitution revised by this 25-member panel because the revised draft turned out to include several changes that are more undemocratic than the original one, such as the clauses stating that the chairman of the National Peacekeeping Council will nominate senators and that the senators will have the same power as elected members of Parliament in deliberating and voting on such important matters as selection of the prime minister and censure motions. "Speaking of the draft constitution and democracy, at this point it is too late for us to create a full democratic system. If we want to create democracy in Thailand, we have to begin teaching democracy to children in kindergarten and instill democracy seriously in the hearts of the youths from the level of kindergarten to university or until they are 18 years old when they have the right to vote. This means that we will be able to have full democracy after the next 18 or 20 years. Now we cannot hope too much."

BAN MUANG's 17 November 550-word editorial on page 5, entitled "A Constitution Which Lacks a Democratic Basis," says that amid opposition, the constitution review panel agreed to replace the controversial party-slate electoral system with the old model under which a voter can pick three individual candidates.

The editorial says that those who are to decide what the constitution will look like will be NLA members. The consideration of the draft constitution in its second and third readings will be the direct responsibility of the NLA members. It also says that "no matter what the electoral method will be, it cannot be claimed as the core of democracy when the elected members of parliament never look after the interests of the poeple because they are still slaves of their political parties. Their actions or opinions have to be brought in line with party regulations and policies. And, the regulations and policies of each party are not the policies or the directions of the people which they need for the government to use as guidelines in administration. Our political parties have yet to be set up by the people. Each political party is set up by small groups of people whose aim is to protect their own interests." Concluding, the editorial says no matter how the constitution turns out, it will lack the democratic basis under which the people will have power or self-administration. Unless the constitution opens up a chance for and encourages the people to learn the system and self-administration methods through tambon councils as the basis of the people's rights and power, we will be unable to create a correct and full democratic system.

Vietnam

Radio Comments on U.S. Asia-Pacific Policy

BK2011153991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 19 Nov 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. President George Bush has made a speech on U.S. policy toward the Asia-Pacific region. For his part, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has been touring some Asian countries. With this development, East Asia and the Pacific are becoming an important region for the U.S. On this issue, we have the following comment.

It is true that at present the Asia-Pacific region is becoming important to the United States. Washington really wishes to develop close relations with countries in the region and wants to be the biggest trade partner of this region. For this reason, last week President George Bush made a speech dealing with U.S. policy toward the Asia-Pacific region.

Before more than 1,000 guests and diplomats from more than 30 countries, George Bush committed to, together with countries in the region, build a bright and future. He also promised that the U.S. will develop closer ties with regional countries and become the biggest trade partner and increase trade values. He affirmed that the U.S. will, together with those countries in the region, exercise democracy and human rights. He said that the

United States attaches importance to its relations with Japan and China. He made known that the United States has decided to upgrade the diplomatic relations with Laos to the ambassadorial level and it is considering normalization of relations with Vietnam. New U.S. point of views have been approved and welcomed by public opinion in the region with the hope that the United States will soon put their statements into practice with practical deeds. But this hope has been dead only several hours after Secretary of State James Baker started his tour of some Asian countries.

In Japan, following his talks with the Japanese Foreign Minister, the host understood that President Bush's commitments on U.S. relations with Asian countries are worse conditions. According to the Japanese news agency KYODO, the United States will closely cooperate with Japan and promote trade ties with that country if the latter continues to suspend aid to Vietnam until the MIA issue is solved. Sources from Japan said that James Baker received cold reaction from Japan.

In China, the second leg of his tour, James Baker opted to ask China to cooperate with the United States in settling some regional issues at Washington's wish. In his talks to James Baker, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen said that today in international relations no country can impose its intention on another to do what it wishes. For this reason, James Baker said that he was not satisfied at China's stand on some issues and that his visit did not mean Sino-U.S. relations was normalized.

The Voice of America on November 15 argued that Mr. Baker said so because Beijing has not settled U.S. concerns over the Asia-Pacific region. The wish for cooperation and development is correct but to materialize it, conditions should not be put. Equality and mutual benefit are the basis. At present, many countries in Southeast Asia are developing their cooperative relations based on equality and mutual benefit. If the U.S. wants to keep its commitments to, together with Asian countries, develop close relations for the prosperous future, it should also bemire [as heard] itself on those principles.

Journal Reviews Thrust of Foreign Policy

BK1811141591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 13 Nov 91

[Article in TAP CHI CONG TAC TU TUONG VAN HOA (IDEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL TASKS) Review by Nguyen Di Nien, deputy foreign minister and party Central Committee member: "Vietnam Wants To Befriend All Countries"]

[Text] The seventh party congress has clearly pointed out Vietnam's important ideological view to the entire world: Vietnam wants to befriend all countries in the world community and struggle for peace, independence and development. This highly generalized ideology and foreign policy in the new situation reflects our people's profound aspirations for peace, national independence and friendship with other nations.

This foreign policy stems, on the one hand, from the dialectic materialist views of the congress on the extremely momentous economic and political changes in the world at present. The changes are great challenges and also create opportunities for our development. Our country is an inseparable part of the world. It is entering a new period with extremely heavy and complex tasks. In implementing these tasks, we cannot ignore the strong and direct effects of the international economy and politics. On the other hand, the foreign policy is a extension of domestic policy. Its aims must effectively help implement the strategic tasks of our country's revolution in the new stage.

The platform and strategy of socioeconomic development have clearly pointed out the long-term domestic aims and tasks. They are to make the people rich and the country strong along the socialist path, and in the immediate future—the next decade—to double the gross social product, and bring about a qualitative turning point in Vietnam's economic development.

Accelerating our economic development over the next 10 years is an extremely heavy duty. Therefore, our foreign affairs faces the pressing problem of creating a peaceful international setting for our national construction and defense and for our advance toward socialism. We must win the sympathy, support and the assistance of the world. Obtaining capital and technology are very important tasks. As a result, the congress has asserted that we should continue to accelerate the diversification of relations with all countries, stepping up international cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, and at the same time contribute to the common struggle of the world's people for lofty epochal aims.

While implementing the foreign policy to serve national construction and development practically, we should firmly grasp the following guidelines:

First, thoroughly understand the lesson of combining national with epochal strength and domestic with the international force. Here, our national strength stems from our national traditions and will to make the people rich and the country strong. This is to be achieved from the industry, creativity and capability of labor, our abundant natural resources, and the strategic geographical position of the country. The epochal strength is manifested by the vigorous development of production forces under the influence of the modern technology and internationalism; by the world movement for peace, independence, democracy, development and social progress; and by the respect and kind sentiments of the world for the glorious history of our nation.

Second, we should improve upon the results achieved over the recent past, persist in the foreign policy of independence, sovereignty, solidarity, friendship, international cooperation and diversified international relations to create a steady international political support for national construction and defense.

Third, thoroughly understand the orientations in the struggle to make Vietnam a friend of all countries.

Fourth, closely combine the requirements of developing international relations with that of security, national defense and ideological tasks, aiming for the highest strategic objective of peace, stability and development.

Fifth, fulfill our international duty in the common struggle of the world suited to the conditions of our country and our international ties without obstructing the implementation of our strategic objective of peace and development.

Firmly grasping these guidelines, we should struggle to implement the foreign policy of the seventh party congress in the following directions:

We should not cease to consolidate and develop the relations of solidarity and friendship between us and Laos and Cambodia. This relationship stems from the closeness of the three countries in geography, politics and the history of the revolutionary struggle.

Heretofore and henceforth, Laos and Cambodia will occupy an important place for our country. Conversely, Vietnam also holds an important position in the revolution of Laos and Cambodia.

In the new situation, we must promptly renovate our relations with Laos and Cambodia along the line of consolidating solidarity and diversification, and according to the revolutionary views of each country as they have decided it. We must renovate cooperation procedures, pay attention to results based on equality and respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, and legitimate interests. We welcome the important results achieved in solving the Cambodia issue. We are ready to cooperate with all countries and sides to promptly attain an overall political solution to the Cambodia issue on the basis of respect for the Cambodian people's independence, sovereignty and right to self-determination and the UN Charter.

The increasing solidarity and cooperation with the Soviet Union is of great significance. The Soviet Union is going through an acute crisis in many respects and has to cope with difficulties and ordeals. We understand that no one other than the Soviet people can resolve their own problems and we hope that the Soviet people will overcome these ordeals and promptly stabilize and continually develop and advance.

We shall maintain and strengthen the inherent ties of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union in general, and with each republic in particular. We should quickly perfect the mechanism of relations, renovate the procedures and enhance the efficiency of Vietnamese-Soviet cooperation in the new situation in order to meet the interests of each individual country.

One of the great foreign relations policies set by the sixth party congress and reaffirmed by the seventh party congress was to normalize relations with China. This reflects our people's deep aspiration. Vietnam and China are two close neighboring socialist countries, two nations with traditional friendship and who once united, supported and assisted one another in the struggle for national independence and national construction.

Now, both countries have to solve similar basic socio-economic problems. We both need a peaceful and stable environment. We have closed a chapter of our past and opened a future in normalizing bilateral relations on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence, without affecting the ties each country has with others.

Through the recent momentous efforts of both sides, a new page has been turned in bilateral relations. Both are actively preparing for the summit scheduled for the end of the year to seal the total normalization of party and state relations. This normalization has responded to the aspirations and interests of the peoples of the two countries and is an extremely important factor in the national construction and development of each country. It is also a major contribution to international relations, peace, stability, friendship and cooperation and development in the region.

We will continue to consolidate and strengthen the solidarity, friendship and cooperation with Cuba, and maintain friendship and cooperation for mutual benefit with other socialist countries. We will continue to treasure the relations of strategic significance with India, and strengthen and enhance our multifarious cooperation for the long-term interests of peace and development. We will consolidate our position and force in the ties with other countries of the world, in the region as well as in the nonaligned movement.

We advocate the policy of developing friendship and cooperation with regional countries. At present, the international and regional situation has changed and requires Southeast Asia to cooperate with one another for development and to become a zone of peace, friendship, cooperation and development.

We are ready to participate in the various regional mechanisms of cooperation and promote bilateral and multilateral cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

We intend to expand and strengthen cooperation with Asia-Pacific countries, Japan, the Western and Northern Europe and other developed countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

We will continue to promote the process of normalizing ties with the United States in the interests of the peoples of the two countries. We will strive to help the UN serve more effectively the goals of mankind, i.e., peace, friendship, cooperation and development. We will expand cooperation with non-governmental organizations, international financial and monetary organizations as well as the UN's specialized organizations.

We will continue to strengthen ties with the communist and workers parties and the progressive forces in the world that struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

In order to victoriously implement the foreign relations thrust of the seventh party congress and Ho Chi Minh's Thought, we should integrate the strength of many forces and facilities. That integration comes from a close combination of the needs of economic and cultural development with the expansion of international cooperation, and international exchange with national defense and security. Coordinated action of the various sectors—the state agencies, business organizations and mass organizations at all levels—and among the foreign relation activities of the party, are based on a high degree of unanimity in the assessment of the situation, strategic goals and action guidelines. All these are done for the basic goal of making the people rich and the country strong along the path to socialism.

Dissident 'Exempted' From Criminal Responsibility

BK2011155191 Hanoi VNA in English 1455 GMT 20 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 20—The Supreme People's Organ of Control today announced that it has exempted Duong Thu Huong from criminal responsibility. The decision was made at the proposal of the Security Investigation Office of the Ministry of Interior and by virtue of Article 48 of the penal code of Vietnam.

Duong Thu Huong was prosecuted on April 13, 1991 on two counts: anti-socialist propaganda and illegal transfer of documents abroad. She was arrested on April 14, 1991, her house was searched and she was placed under temporary custody. Subsequent investigations and the accused's own confessions show that Duong Thu Huong has committed acts in contravention of law as stipulated in Article 82 of the penal code. Duong Thu Huong has pleaded guilty. However, considering the extent of the offence, and the sincerity of the accused in her confessions, and proceeding from the lenient policy of the Vietnamese state, the Supreme Organ of Control has agreed to the Security Investigation Office's proposal to exempt Duong Thu Huong from criminal prosecution.

Germany Allows Workers To Stay to Contracts End

BK1911133691 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 15 Nov 91

[Text] According to foreign reports, a high-ranking German official said that Vietnamese who have followed vocational training or worked as guest workers in former East Germany may stay in the united Germany until their contracts run out.

Interior Minister General Wolfgang Schaeuble said Vietnamese workers in Germany will be allowed to stay even if they had lost their jobs or training facilities because of the restructuring of former East Germany's economy or if they had moved to the western part of Germany.

He also said that the German Government wants to foster their repatriation after the expiration of their contracts.

Before Germany's reunification, 31,000 Vietnamese were working in East Germany. Now about 5,300 are still living in Germany.

License Granted for UK Paint Producing Venture

BK1811162191 Hanoi VNA in English 1512 GMT 18 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 18—In early November this year, the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment granted a licence to a paint-producing project in the form of a contractual business cooperation between the Dongnai Paint Factory (Dongnai Province) and the Courtaulde Coatings (Holdings) Co. Ltd (Britain).

This is an import-substitution project, lying within the foreign capital attraction programme of the Vietnam Government.

In accordance with the contract, the foreign party shall supply equipment, materials, new technology and technical experts to produce paints of high quality to service the ship-repairing industry and oil rigs.

The total investment capital is US 1 million with the investment duration of five years. With this project, it is expected that the import of paints will be reduced.

The paint-producing project is the tenth investment by Britain in Vietnam in accordance with the foreign investment law since 1981. Apart from two projects which have expired, Britain has got eight projects in actual operation with the total investments of US 122.8 million, ranking seventh among the top ten countries investing in Vietnam.

Bui Thien Ngo at Border Troops Party Congress

BK1811095891 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 15 Nov 91

[Text] On 12-14 November 1991, the party committee of the border troops held its ninth second-round party congress. Comrade Bui Thien Ngo, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and representatives from the party Personnel Organization and different departments of the Central Public Security Force attended the congress.

Comrade Tran Chan, secretary of the party committee of the border troops, stated in the political report that with the complex and difficult situation in the past years, the border troops have renovated their policies and measures to meet the changes of the situation. The work of patrolling the borders has mainly been based on the people and closely coordinated with other sectors and forces to develop the combined strength. Therefore, the national security at the border has been maintained, positively contributing to the socioeconomic development and broadening of international exchange in all fields.

For their own building work, the border troops have focused on improving the standards of party members and party organizations to strengthen the troops' stamina, overcome difficulties when they are deployed in isolated areas, and determinedly carry out their duties successfully. However, the work of patrolling the borders also has some shortcomings. At times, the border and coastal areas are loosely controlled, leading to illegal border crossings and trading and other criminal activities which are the burning issue and need to be overcome.

The congress showed its determination in profoundly understanding the seventh national party congress resolutions and the resolutions of the Central Public Security Force, in the continuation of its renovation work on border patrolling, and in making the border troops suitable to the new situation.

The congress delegates contributed many excellent ideas concerning the control of the national border. They suggested that the state needs to have a uniform policy on patrolling the borders, and they also urged the state to promulgate laws on national border protection.

Journal on 'Development' of Marxism, Ho's Thought

BK1811114191 Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN in Vietnamese Oct 91 pp 3-7

[October 1991 editorial: "Hold High the Banner of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh's Thought"]

[Text] In view of the current serious crisis of the socialist world and the crumbling of socialism in certain countries, those imperialist forces hostile to socialism are inventing stories about the so-called "bankruptcy of Marxism-Leninism," "the end of socialism and communism," and "the beginning of a post-communist era." In our country, a number of people seem to have believed in this and have therefore turned to vacillating over the epochal law of evolution and over whether our people's choice of socialism is correct.

Are all these things correct?

Our answer is: It is not so!

It is not "the bankrupcy of Marxism-Leninism" but rather the bankcrupcy of the act of staying aloof from the fundamental principles of Marxism-Leninism as this has led to the setback of socialism in a number of countries and to the increasingly serious crisis of the socialist world.

It is not "the end of socialism and communism" but rather the continual development of socialism toward a new stage through a renewal process that has been being carried out by the remaining socialist countries—countries which are pursuing socialism under various forms—in accordance with the principles of Marxism-Leninism. The future of the socialist world rests partly with this renewal process. The inevitable victory of the socialist world will certainly be achieved in developed capitalist countries, in the Third World, and even in those countries where socialism has just suffered a defeat.

It is not "the beginning of a post-communist era" but rather the continuation of the era of transiting from capitalism to socialism and communism. Although this transition is now in a state of twists and turns, it is merely temporary. The temporary period of a historical stage is, however, not short.

We continue to affirm that the Great October Socialist Revolution has opened up a new era for mankind despite those fierce disputes now taking place in the homeland of the October Revolution which have caused great concern not only to communists in the world but also to the entire mankind.

The history of development of mankind shows that the transition from one era to another and the replacement of an obsolete mode of production with a new one suitable to the progress of history may perpetuate for many centuries and may have to undergo countless rigors and hardships, twists and turns, and complications, and may be marked with both successes and setbacks. Setbacks may, at times, occur right at the very center of the revolution. But the wheel of history will eventually continue to move forward and nothing can stop it. Over their past three centuries of development, capitalist forces have triumphed over feudalism, fought against one another, opposed the worker-peasant masses, and then proceeded toward establishing their rule over our entire planet. That is exactly what has happened.

We continue to recognize those great credits of the October Socialist Revolution, of the Soviet Union, and of the world socialist system. We continue to affirm the extremely great contributions of socialism to the world revolutionary movement. In its history of existence, socialism has, for the most part, had to cope with countless fierce attacks from the most bellingerent imperialist forces. This fact alone is enough to testify to the superiority of the socialist system even though it is still in a nascent and imperfect stage.

It should be recalled that the newly-arising crisis of socialism is not due to "the flaws of Marxism-Leninism" as alleged by hostile forces but rather to the fact that the leadership of many socialsit countries has long strayed off the course of Marxist-Leninist principles in a "leftish" direction as evidenced by the practice of dogmatism, subjectivism, volition, dogmatization of Marxism-Leninism, the application of socialism which has been patterned after similar models in the different historical conditions of nations and peoples, failure to observe objective laws, hastiness to step up the socialist revolution and socialist construction at variance with the law governing the harmony between production relations and production forces, bureaucratization of the party and state apparatuses, granting special privileges to party cadres and members, violation of the laboring people's right to mastery, and acts that go against socialist democracy.

Thus, renovation, reform, and restructuring has become a matter of life and death for socialism in each country and the worldwide socialist camp as well. It is necessary to overcome the practice of dogmatism, subjectivism, and volition. It is important to return to Marx and Lenin and firmly grasp and translate the revolutionary and scientific characters of Marxism-Leninism into reality.

However, in the process of renovation, reform, and restructuring, there have emerged new deviations and a straying away from Marxism-Leninism in a "rightist" direction. To be more precise, attempts to negate and revise the fundamental principles of Marxism-Leninism have developed regarding the class struggle, proletarian dictatorship, the communist party's exclusive leadership right, the principles of democratic centralism within the communist party, and so forth. Particularly, one must mention the vacillation, the illusion about modern capitalism, the unprincipled compromises, and the withdrawal in the face of the offensive spearheads directed by the bourgeoisie-type ideological system and by those traitorous, opportunistic, and reactionary elements of different colors, as well as of the politico-economic pressure exerted by imperialism within the framework of its "peaceful evolution" strategy.

As far as the propaganda themes of the imperialist forces, democracy and livelihood in the guise of "pluralism-multipartite system" and a "free market economy" are the two most dangerous weapons because they may be the best instruments to attract and deceive the people. Realities in a number of socialist countries indicate that "pluralism and the multipartite system" is a political and theoretical device used by the bourgeoisie-initiated ideological system to deprive the communist party of its exclusive leadership right. This is to establish the monopoly of the bourgeoisie-backed parties step by step, as well as to cover up attempts to revive capitalism. The so-called "depoliticization" and "neutralization" of state apparatuses, military organizations, public security services, and other dictatorship instruments of the socialist system as well as other mass media under the socialist regime are nothing but attempts to deprive these organizations and instruments of their socialist characters and to gradually put them under the capitalist forces' control. The search for communists, the bans on communist party activities and communist publications, the frenzied anti-communist campaigns here and there are ample evidence of all those attempts.

It is worth noting that as admitted by Western public opinions, in a number of socialist countries where the socialist regime has collapsed and the capitalist system restored under different forms and different scales, far from being improved, the socioeconomic crisis and all aspects of life have continued to deteriorate. After being deceived by demagogic calls, the laboring people are now "disappointed" as they realize that they have made a mistake in opting for a new "choice." Is is true that this is the continued bankruptcy of Marxism-Leninism? It is absolutely not so! Instead, this is the bankruptcy of the very act of staying aloof and revising the fundamental principles of Marxism-Leninism in the "rightist" direction and also the result of the very pernicious comprehensive offensives directed by imperialism and other anti-communist forces already mentioned above.

Obviously, socialism and the world communist movement are being undermined by a new type of rightist opportunism. It can be said that in the old days, rightist opportunism emerged along with the spread of the world communist movement. This came at a time when capitalism developed into imperialism and that today's rightist opportunism—let's call it modern rightist opportunism—came into existence at a time when, on the one hand, modern capitalism has tried to adapt itself to a new scientific and technological revolution in order to make more progress, and the other hand, socialism has been plunged into a serious crisis resulting from the mistakes of conservatism, dogmatism, subjectivism, and volition. People believed that a "third path" based on rightist opportunism might provide socialism with a way out. Nonetheless, the end result was the elimination of socialism and the return to capitalism in one form or another. Rightist opportunism has become the inside factor of further aggravation of the crisis and has given capitalism a helping hand so that it can "win over socialism without having to wage war!"

Obviously, the lesson to be drawn here is the need to restore and protect Marxism-Leninism, to hold high the banner of Marxism-Leninism, and to develop and creatively apply Marxism-Leninism to the new conditions and circumstances of the era. Along with heightening vigilance against imperialism's dark schemes, it is necessary to resolutely oppose all new manifestations of rightist opportunism and acts of staying aloof from the fundamental principles of Marxism-Leninism. At the same time, it is important to criticize all indications of conservatism, subjectivism, and dogmatic and mechanical application of Marxism-Leninism and to advance the cause of socialist renovation a step further.

The victory of the Vietnamese revolution in the past half century under the leadership of our party is also the glorious victory of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought. Implanting Ho Chi Minh Thought means creatively developing and applying Marxism-Leninism to the specific conditions of the Vietnamese revolution along with inheriting and illustrating the traditions of the Vietnamese people and the quintessence of mankind. The progressive, rich, and diversified ideological heritage of Ho Chi Minh in the political, military, economic, cultural, and educational domains has been recognized and highly evaluated worldwide as a priceless treasure. This heritage is being fervently studied, applied, and developed by our people, cadres, and party members.

In the process of promoting the socialist revolution since the historic 1975 spring victory, "our party has exerted great efforts to study and define policies and correctly determine the objectives and orientations for the building of socialism." It is not right to deny the many great achievements that have been recorded by our people. Meanwhile, because our party has "committed subjective mistakes, advocated voluntarism, and violated irrefutable objective laws," socialism in our country has faced a serious socioeconomic crisis. We should blame this on ourselves, not on Marxism-Leninism, because we have failed to adopt Marxism-Leninism in the right direction.

At its sixth congress our party criticized itself and defined the correct policy of renovation, which has been certified by its highly important initial achievements during the past 4 years. Our party attaches importance to reviewing the practical experiences accumulated by our revolution, especially during the 4 years of enforcing the policy of renovation, and to drawing on the experiences of other socialist countries both in their successes and failures in the process of renovation, reform, and restructuring. Meanwhile, it has procured the newest findings from mankind's intellect, including those revealed by modern capitalism. Based on these experiences and findings, the party has made supplements to and constantly modified the policy of renovation at its seventh congress. This has been manifested in the documents adopted by the congress.

Our party has affirmed that because renovation is a matter of vital importance to the socialist revolution in our country, it is necessary to continue accelerating the process of renovation. However, renovation must be carried out in accordance with regulations and in such a way as to creatively and systematically apply the fundamental principles of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought to the conditions and situation of Vietnam in the new era.

Let us persist in the socialist way, considering this is the only correct option. We must oppose all the vague, vacillating, and imaginative conceptions about capitalism. The socialist way in which our people persist is one that manifests the characteristics of Vietnam with basic specialties and orientations for leadership and development specified in the party's platform.

We must persist in the sole leadership of the communisty party and stand up against "political pluralism and multi-party and opposition party systems." The administration is a fundamental issue of the revolution. Under all circumstances the party must firmly assume leadership over the administration, army, and public security service.

We must vigorously practice the multicomponent commodity economy in the direction of socialism and continue eliminating the mechanism of bureaucratic centralism and subsidies, and switch to the market- oriented mechanism under the management of the state.

It is necessary to modify the system of mastery by the people, management by the state, and leadership by the party; ensure the actual right to mastery in all aspects of the laboring people; and bring socialist democracy into full play. It is also necessary to oppose bureaucratism, dogmatism, despotism, corruption, liberalism, disorganization, indiscipline, and bourgeois democracy.

Efforts must be made to renovate and revamp the party in all aspects—theory, ideology, organizational and cadre-related work, and mode of leadership—restore and strengthen the close relations between the party and people; ensure that all mass political bases are strong and closely linked to the party and socialist regime; and define correct policies to bring about the real material and spiritual interests of the people.

We must remain vigilant against all the schemes and tricks of the hostile forces and opportunists and reactionaries of all stripes; take the initiative in attacking the enemy on the political and ideological front; and stand ready for combat to defend the fatherland, the socialist regime, the party, and the peaceful work process of the people.

As specified in the platform of our party at its seventh congress, Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought are the ideological foundation and guidance for all activities of the party.

Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought will remain forever the victorious banner of the Vietnamese revolution and people on the road to vanquishing backwardness and poverty, thereby bringing about freedom and an abundant and happy life for the people and ensuring true independence for the nation.